

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXI., No. 603. SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 14, 1878. PRICE, T.S. 12 7 AN.

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to specially caution them against this compound,
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Preserved Vegetables,
Hams and Bacon, in Tins,
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(2) alt. 17my '79 92

READ

THE

CALCUTTA MAGAZINE.

YEARLY—Dollars 6; Postage and Packing free.

This seems to be a very readable periodical.—*North-China Herald.*

A very neat and ably-conducted Magazine, styled the *Calcutta Magazine*, edited by Mr. Owen Aratoon, a gentleman of well-known literary talent.—*The Straits Times.*

DARLINGTON & Co., General Agents.

49, Dhurumtollah Street, Calcutta, India. Sole Agents in India, Burmah, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements and China. tf

THE North-China Herald AND SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXI., No. 603. SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 14, 1878. PRICE, T'LS. 12 7/8 AN.

CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c.	
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, &c.	
LEADING ARTICLE—	
The Present attitude of Affairs in Asia	561
SUMMARY OF NEWS	562
EDITORIAL SELECTIONS (from <i>Daily News</i>):	
Sir James Stephen on Afghanistan	564
The term "Shangti"	564
Japan and Corea	565
Voltaire on China	566
OUTPORTS, &c.—	
Peking	566
Tientsin	567
Newchwang	567
Amoy	567
Foochow	567
Hongkong	568
Canton	568
The Straits	569
Manila	569
Nagasaki	569
Hiogo	569
Yokohama	569
Japan and Corea	570
PEKING GAZETTES	570
PUBLIC MEETINGS—	
Municipal Council	570
French Do.	570
AMUSEMENTS—	
Mr. and Mrs. B. Fairclough at the Lyceum	571
No. 2 Co., S. V. C. Rifle Competition	572
Saturday's Paper Hunt	572
MISCELLANEOUS—	
Fire in Hongkew	572
Palestine Exploration Fund	573
Sharp Shock of Earthquake in Hongkong	573
The Murder in Hongkong—Trial of the accused	574
Li Yeung-choi's Invasion of Annam	574
The United States	574
CORRESPONDENCE—	
A Word in Season	574
The Diplomatic and Consular Services	575
LAW REPORTS—	
H. M.'s Supreme Court—	
Chin Quai v. J. Bradfield	575
Sturrock v. Beato (appeal)	576
Civil Summary—	
Sui-kow v. J. A. Taylor	577
Ab-chin v. James Haly	577
Police—	
C. R. England v. W. A. Jones	577
R. v. Anderson, Scott, Corwin, Gregory and Lacey	577
R. v. Anderson, Scott, and Corwin	578
H. M.'s Court, Hiogo—	
E. C. Kirby & Co. v. the China Fire Insurance Co.	578
EXTRACTS—	
The Afghan at Home	578
The Constitution of the Chinese Religious Tract Society	578
The City of Glasgow Bank	579
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE—	
Tables of Tex. Silk and Cotton Exports	580
Market Report	581
Exchange Quotations	584
Share Quotations	584

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, ...	Oct. 25	Hankow, ...	Dec. 11
San Francisco, ...	24	Yokohama, ...	12
Hongkong, ...	Dec. 6	Nagasaki, ...	4
Tientsin, ...	6	Foochow, ...	7
Latest Mail dates in England, from China.			
Hongkong, ...	Sept. 14	Received 23rd October.	
Shanghai, ...	8		

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 7th inst., the wife of W. T. MILLEY, of a daughter.
At Wuchang, on the 5th December, the wife of the Rev. J. R. RACE, Wesleyan Mission, of a son.
At 66, St. George's-road, Warwick-square, S.W., London, on the 19th Oct., the wife of S. GUY PAGET, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At the Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 7th December, 1878, by the Very Rev. Dean Butcher, THOMAS BROWN, to ALICE, eldest daughter of Benjamin Campbell, Esq., of Brixton, Surrey.
At the Methodist Free Church, York St., Cheetham, Manchester, on October 10th, by the Rev. Marmaduke Miller, the Rev. F. GALPIN, of Ningpo, to EMILY MATILDA, eldest daughter of George Swallow, Eaton House, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester.

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Taels 12 7/8; Six Months, Taels 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

The publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.15 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, DEC. 14, 1878.

MR. R. K. Douglas in a letter to the *Times* pointed out that much was to be gained by an understanding between Great Britain and China in the presence of the present attitude of affairs in Asia. That, in fact, however backward was the position of China, she, along with Russia and Great Britain, must be considered as one of the great Asiatic Powers, and one whose interest accordingly should be considered in any matter relating to Central Asia. When, however, Mr. Douglas went on to say that, by the recent conquest of Kashgar, China had become a stronger Power than before, he expressed one of those injurious platitudes which have so much hindered of late years the specific action of England. In this matter Mr. Douglas spoke with that superficial knowledge which is only too characteristic of unpractical men, but which his position should

have distinctly guarded him against. Englishmen, above others, should not need to be told that territorial extension is not of itself a source of strength, or rather that, unless wisely undertaken and carefully administered, the greater the territory to be taken care of the weaker must be the Central Government. More especially is this the case in Asiatic monarchies, which have seldom or never displayed the ability or disposition to assimilate subject races, and have contented themselves with a loose sovereignty, and as long as tribute has been regularly paid have seldom troubled themselves with the internal administration of conquered territory. So it has constantly happened that with the death of the first conqueror, or at best of his successor, those ill-compacted Empires have fallen to the ground. For no less than twenty centuries China has had claims more or less well founded in Eastern Turkestan; but except when internal dissensions, such as followed the death of the Ameer Yakoob, have paralysed the Government, she has never been able to exercise any efficient control. Such was the condition of Chinese rule in Turkestan before the insurrection of the native tribes, and such, from an experience of nearly two thousand years, will be the condition of Chinese rule in the future. The garrisons in Kashgar, Yarkand, Khoten, and the other cities, may be said to have lived on on sufferance; and when a general insurrection broke out they were unable to take any active steps towards its repression and faded away, or were massacred one after the other, without being once able to take the field or offer an effective resistance. There seems no reason to suppose that Chinese rule in Turkestan will be more stable now than before. The traditions of the Empire are still the same, and none will maintain that the rule of the present is as effective as in the times of Kienlung. The occupation of Kashgar, for conquest it scarcely deserves to be called, has pressed very heavily on the finances of the Empire, at a time

when it could but ill-afford the strain; and, moreover, there is now on the frontier a Power ever eager to stir up discontent. The son of the late Ameer has been taken in hand by the Russians and given military rank, and his presence alone is looked upon by the Chinese as a standing menace. On the other hand, Turkestan is but a poor country; and lately, isolated as it has been, its poverty is greater than ever. It has no exports, scarcely employs any imports, is for the most part covered with desert, and even in its peopled parts the population is but scanty. Even Russia did not evince much anxiety to possess it as long as it was ruled over by the Ameer Yakoub; but its possession by China evidently excites jealousies, and every nerve will be strained to render its occupation as little profitable as possible. On the whole, it may be safely said that China is all the weaker for its efforts to extend its territory, and these efforts are the more displeasing to Englishmen, who have studied the politics of Asia, in that they have resulted so far in affording a standpoint for further Russian designs.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 25th October arrived on the 9th instant, by the P. & O. steamer *Teheran*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the P. & O. steamer *Geelong*.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Via Suez.)

Supplied to the "N.-C. Daily News."

Constantinople, 4th Dec.

A new Ministry has been formed as follows: Khereddine Pasha has been appointed Grand Vizier; Caratheodori, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Osman Pasha, Minister of War.

London, 9th Dec.

The West of England and South Wales Banking Company have suspended payment. The liabilities are estimated at £3,500,000.

We give elsewhere the first list of subscriptions to the "Mayers' Memorial Fund," and, in calling attention to it, we venture to say that none will become aware of the necessity for raising such a fund without feeling a pang of regret that so well-known and popular a man as the late Mr. Mayers should have been cut off in the prime of life and before he had time to provide sufficiently for the subsistence and education of those nearest and dearest to him. We feel sure that it is not necessary to say more on the subject to ensure a quick and sympathetic response to the appeal.

Some further subscriptions to the China Famine Relief Fund are given in another column, amounting to Tls. 1,519.02, and bringing up the total to date to Tls. 192,524.49; of which there is a balance in the hands of the treasurer of Tls. 2,512.02.

Among the passengers who left on Wednesday by the M.B. Co.'s steamer *Genkai Maru*, was R. T. Rennie Esq., the newly appointed Judge of H.M.'s Court at Kanagawa.

Among the passengers who arrived on the 6th inst., by the steamer *Sin Nansing*, from Tientsin, was Mr. Hugh Fraser, H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, at Peking, who, we hear, has obtained leave of absence and is en route for England.

Our readers will have regretted to hear of the sudden demise of another well-known and respected resident in this Settlement, Mr. F. E. Heyden, Consul for the Netherlands.

We are requested to draw the attention of the public to the fact that the Customs' Nautical Telegraph has been revised, and that the new mode of signalling will commence on the 1st of January, 1879. The Commercial Code has been added to the list of flags at present in use, and when exhibited by an approaching vessel similar flags will be hoisted at Pootung. The numbers of the regular coast and riverine steamers have been rearranged by the Harbour Master, and from the list we ascertain the fact that Shanghai can now boast of fifty-nine regular traders.

It has been announced that tenders will be received for the absolute purchase or lease of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's Foundry in Hongkew, comprising several rows of godowns, dwelling-houses for the staff, and several rows of workshops, with all tools, &c., complete, and covering an area of about 2½ acres; also for the Company's Dock, at Pootung, covering about four acres.

The air is full of rumours respecting the future of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, consequent, it may be supposed, upon the action recently taken with respect to the foundry and dock worked by the Company in Hongkew. The latest rumour is, and we give it with all reservation, that Mr. Robert Hart is engaging a staff of employes in England for the especial purpose of working the business on behalf of the Company. Should this be true, it will give colour to what has been said respecting both the finances and the ill-success attending their administration hitherto.—The letter of our Tientsin correspondent, given on another page also throws considerable light on the prudent measures of retrenchment lately commenced by the management.

The valuable real estates of the late A. H. de Carvalho, Esq., have been offered for sale by public auction. The property comprised both land and buildings, and was submitted in two lots only, the first of which was situated in the Foochow road. This was bought for Tls. 17,000. The second lot included various properties, and was bought by Chinese for the sum of Tls. 20,600.

Mr. Helland, the manager of the Great Northern Telegraph Company here, has kindly furnished us with the following particulars regarding the breakage and speedy repair of the Gutzlaff-Nagasaki cable. It was one of the quickest repairs effected on a submarine cable, and the narrative may be interesting to our readers:—On Friday evening at 9 o'clock

the last message handed in for transmission to Japan was duly despatched and collated from Nagasaki, which means we had receipt for the message from that station. At 9.30 the communication was interrupted, and Nagasaki could not be called; but a proper list was not obtained from Gutzlaff before 10.15 o'clock the same evening. On Saturday morning the Company's repairing steamer *H. C. Orsted* was coaled, provisioned, and a lot of spare cable put on board, and she left Woosung at 12.50 p.m. (noon). At 6.30 p.m. on Saturday she passed Gutzlaff, and next morning at 8.10 o'clock she had grappled the cable forty-one miles from Gutzlaff and ascertained that the break was within three miles from that spot. At 12.30 she had the broken end on board and the cable was found broken by an anchor dragging through it, 42½ nautical miles from Gutzlaff. The ship then announced the last splice would be ready at 1.45 o'clock, and communication with Nagasaki was re-established at that hour.

We are informed that Mr. Colin Jamieson, Commissioner of Customs, attached to the Chinese Commission at the Paris Exhibition, has been appointed an officer of the Legion of Honour, in recognition of his services in connection with the Chinese section.

It has been announced that in consequence of an agreement made with the French Post-Office, and in pursuance of instructions from the Company's head office, the mail steamer *Peiho* will be despatched from Shanghai on Sunday, the 22nd instant, instead of Friday, the 20th, as previously mentioned.

The boys at St. Francis Xavier's school gave an entertainment at the College on Saturday afternoon, in the presence of parents and friends numbering about 250. The programme included dialogues, discussions, essays, etc., all being very well done; and there were also singing and music under the direction of the Rev. Father Basuiau. A pleasant and instructive afternoon was spent.

On Saturday afternoon, a man who looked like a seaman, amused himself in the Broadway, Hongkew, near the Sailors' Home, by overturning jinrikshas in which Chinese were riding, and throwing the occupants into the road. This, we are informed, he did on several occasions, but "he carried his pitcher to the well" once too often. A foreigner cautioned him not to interfere with peaceable passengers again, and, as he persisted, gave him a deserved thrashing. The offender, we are informed, was not the worse for liquor, and his conduct was therefore all the more reprehensible.

Thursday's *Hsin-pao* remarks that the Canton authorities should not delay to take active measures against the rebel Li Yang-tsai, because of his promise to confine himself to recovering the kingdom of Annam, which belonged to his forefathers. So cunning a rabbit will assuredly have three holes to his burrow, and should he be permitted to consolidate his forces undisturbed, he will not content himself with Annam, but occasion trouble to the Yunnan and Kwang provinces. From the tone of his letter to the Manchu Commander-in-Chief at Canton,

it is apparent that his rebellious conduct was occasioned by the contumelious treatment he received at the hands of the high authorities of the latter provinces. The Editor concludes by warning his readers not to regard Li as a prodigy simply because his nose has three nostrils.

The British ship *Connaught Ranger*, Captain Murphy, from London to Shanghai with a general cargo, has, according to the *Daily Press*, arrived at Hongkong, in distress, she having been aground thirty-six hours on an island, north twenty miles from Deli, in Timor. She had to jettison 150 tons of cargo, and when she was got off the island the ship had 5 feet 4 inches of water in the fore-hold and 3 feet 7 inches in the well. After pumping for five days the water was pumped out, and the vessel was kept dry until the 29th ult., when, to the eastward of the Bashee Channel, she experienced a very heavy hurricane from the N.E., when she commenced to make water again. The sea washed over the ship, smashing the wheel-house, and the fore and mizen lower topsails, fore topmast staysail, and fore-sail were carried away. After the gale, the leakage increased until the chief officer, second officer, and ten men were laid up, suffering great exhaustion from eight successive weeks pumping.

There was an unusually high tide yesterday afternoon—the highest that has been known for several months past. In many places south of the Custom-House, the water was on a level with the Bund, the Ke-chong jetty being entirely submerged, while down the Bund the foreshore was flooded several feet inside the telegraph poles and nearly up to the P. and O. flagstaff. The back and low-lying parts of the Settlement, it is feared, would suffer considerably.

The hearing of the case of Chin Quai v. J. Bradfield was concluded Monday in Her Majesty's Supreme Court, before G. French, Esq., Chief Judge. The examination of the plaintiff and his mafoo lasted during the day till dark, and then with the light of a small paraffin lamp and three candles the legal gentlemen summed up on behalf of their respective clients, and at half-past six in the evening his Lordship intimated that he would reserve his decision.

A copy of the tenth annual report of the Hospital for Chinese at the American Episcopal Mission, Shanghai, has been kindly forwarded to us, and from it we gather that 19,970 patients were treated during 1877, among whom were 107 foreigners (Malays and Africans.) Ninety-two were admitted to the wards, and the dispensary practice numbered 19,878 patients. Ten in-door patients died during the year. The accounts are in a favourable condition, showing a balance in hand of \$1,167.82. In their report, Drs. Henderson and Zacharie, the medical officers, say:—"It is greatly to be regretted that the mission has as yet been able to do so little towards the improvement of the premises in which the work of the Hospital is carried on. The usefulness of the Institution continues to be seriously restricted by the condition of the building, which is only fitted for the reception of the poorest class of patients. At Kong Wan and Næn Zeang, Mr. Hoong Neok vaccina-

ted 601 native children."—The Rev. Dr. Nelson, the Rector, writes:—"We have been striving to accumulate a fund for the erection of a more suitable building for the Hospital, as well as to procure a better site than that on which it now stands. A good site we have not yet got, but shall continue our efforts to secure one, and shall be obliged for help towards this object. The area of ground required need not be large, but it is desirable that it should be not far either from the present hospital or from the New Police station. The fund for building is now large enough to give good hope of a suitable Hospital, if we had the proper site. The prestige of nine years of service, and of the good done to numbers from various regions around, makes this Hospital an institution of considerable value to the natives of many places. We trust that in the future, both in a benevolent and a Christian point of view, its benefits will be yet more extended. To the surgeons who have given their time, their skill and their kindly services to the Hospital, we would here make our grateful acknowledgments, as well as to those who have contributed the means of its support,—and ask from them all a continuance of their charity.

HONGKONG appears to be somewhat better off than Shanghai, with respect to future mail departures. The *China Mail* is requested to state that, commencing with the English Mail of the 21st instant, both the French and English Mails will leave, during the rest of the winter, on Saturdays. We congratulate our Hongkong friends on their still having the opportunity for a Saturday half-holiday left them.—The Hongkong *Daily Press* regrets to announce the death of Mr. James Williams, of the Horse Repository. The deceased had been in China sixteen years, and was a member of the Zetland Lodge, E.C., and St. John Lodge, S.C., of Freemasons, a number of whom together with many of his friends followed his remains to the grave. Mr. Williams was as well known in Shanghai as Hongkong, and was much respected by all who knew him.

By private information received from NAGASAKI we learn that on Monday last a fire broke out on board the M.B. Co.'s steamer *Genkai Maru*, which was then lying in that port. Smoke was seen issuing from the engineers' department, the fire alarm on board was immediately sounded, and assistance was sent from one of the Russian men-of-war in port. Happily their services were not required, as by the prompt and energetic action of the engineering staff, and the officers and crew generally, the flames had been extinguished and only slight damage was done.

In the cyclone of 1867, says the *Indian Daily News*, the China opium steamer *Thunder* was lost somewhere in the neighbourhood of the Sandheads. The vessel had a very large amount of specie and bullion on board when she was wrecked. Frequently since that time rumours have circulated in Calcutta that the vessel has been seen, and her whereabouts is supposed to be known by some fortunate individual. The truth of these rumours is about to be practically tested. A resident of Calcutta is fitting out a steamer, at his own cost in the event of failure, to find the lost vessel, and with an agreement from the underwriters and others concerned, that he is to have a certain percentage of the property recovered.

For a variety of news from the OUTPORTS, JAPAN, &c., see other pages.

THE MAYERS' MEMORIAL FUND.

First list of subscriptions received by the Oriental Bank Corporation at Shanghai:—
Collected in Hongkong.

Keswick, Hon. W.	\$ 20.00
Jackson, T.	50.00
Nelson, H. H.	25.00
Smith, Hon. C. C.	25.00
Russell, J.	25.00
Gibb, H. B.	25.00
Chater, C. P.	150.00
Gillies, D.	50.00
Forbes, W. H.	25.00
Lister, A.	25.00
Wodehouse, H. E.	25.00
A. C.	25.00
G. W. B.	10.00
H. J.	5.00
W. J. S.	5.00
Sassoon, F. D.	50.00
J. R. A.	10.00
Smith, H.	10.00
Mody, H. N.	50.00
Hancock, A.	15.00
Eitel, E. J.	15.00
E. H. O.	5.00

Collected in Canton. \$645.00

Commissioner of Customs and other Officers, I. M. Customs, Canton	\$100.00
Stewart, J.	30.00
Caldar, J.	20.00
Pender, J. P.	10.00
Edwards, R.	10.00
Bevis, M. L.	10.00
Godsil, J.	5.00
Murray, J. B.	5.00
Lam Shing	25.00
Sampson, Theo.	100.00
Hance, H. F.	25.00

Collected in Shanghai. \$340.00

Hughes, P. J.	\$ 20.00
Warren, P. L.	14.72
Allen, H. J.	22.19
Watters, T.	36.65
Playfair, G. M. H.	14.60
Frater, A.	38.25
Scott, James.	3.64
Oxenham, E. L.	7.31
Gregory, W.	50.00
Scott, B. C. G.	37.50
Brenan, B.	75.00
Moorhead, R. B.	72.20
Everard, C. W.	37.50
Davenport, A.	25.00
Stronach, W. G.	40.00
Bristow, H. B.	7.50
Allen, Clement R. F.	200.00
Haden, Geo. W.	5.00

Tls. 707.06

Add Hongkong and Canton subscriptions 709.20

Total, Taels 1,416.26

The Oriental Bank Corporation have kindly consented to receive any further subscriptions to the above fund.

ARTHUR DAVENPORT, Hon. Secretary.

FURTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE CHINA FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

Received from China Inland Mission, per Rev. Mr. Turner	£ 500.00
Do. from Chinese in Shanghai for Orphan Children in Shansi, per Rev. Mr. Muirhead	500.00
Do. from Chinese in Amoy, per Rev. Dr. Talmage, \$2 at 73	1.46
Subscriptions at Penang, through Chartered Mercantile Bank, \$530 at 73	386.90
Girls' School, Japan, per Bishop Williams, \$10.40 at 72.5	7.54
Contributions in England, per Rev. J. Innocent	90.26
Chinese in America, per Rev. Dr. Hopper, \$7.50 at 72.3	5.66
Friends in America, per Rev. Dr. Ashmore, Swatow, \$29.72 at 72	21.40
Chinese Congregation in Formosa, \$8 at 72.5	5.80

Tls. 1,519.02

Amounts acknowledged 191,005.47

Total collected to date...Sh. Tls. 192,524.49

Balance in hands of the Treasurer...Tls. 2,512.02

Shanghai, 12th Dec.

Editorial Selections.

SIR JAMES STEPHEN ON AFGHANISTAN.

AMONGST the little group of distinguished soldiers and "politicals" who write and speak on Indian affairs, few deserve to be listened to with greater respect than Sir James Stephen. The author of the masterly essays in the *Pall Mall* on "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity" has very few rivals, and his wide knowledge and experience in England and India give a value to all his expressions of opinion which cannot easily be over-estimated. The *Times*, which we received by last mail, contains a letter by this high authority on the absorbing question of the time, the relations between England, Russia and the power which *Punch* characterizes as the "poor buffer," Afghanistan. We noted in a recent article the blunders committed by Lord Lawrence during his viceroyalty, and we find his mistakes noticed in the papers just at hand. But it seems that several Viceroys have been implicated in the mismanagement which has borne such ominous fruit. "Liberal Governments and conservative Governments must plead guilty to the charge that their Afghan policy has been a thing of fits and starts, incoherent, incomprehensible by Shere Ali and mysterious to ourselves." Sir James Stephen is not a crazy alarmist. It is the merest folly to charge him with fostering directly or indirectly that peculiar policy of definiteness and national assertion which has been nicknamed "Jingoism." It is not conceivable that the philosophic statesman and the experienced public servant could have caught the key-note of his policy from a music hall song or from writers whose views find their popular expression in vulgar rhodomontade. Sir James Stephen is not a Russophobic, but he points out with very great perspicuity why the boldest action in regard to Afghanistan is the only safe course for England. We do not find in his letter any assertion to the effect that the Russians could invade India at the moment. The losses sustained in the Plevna campaign, and the financial difficulties of the Czar, render such a project an insane dream at present, but we have to fear a number of aggressive movements and small annexations; and, above all, we have to dread the creation of a Russo-Indian army which would match our own sepoy. It would take Russian generals some time to organize such a force, but if we do not take speedy measures to prevent it, the Czar's advisers will urge him to act on this plan; and then in a few years we shall find that we are compelled to keep a vast frontier army always in readiness to resist attack, and such an army would be a tremendous burden to the resources of the Empire. It is granted that the immense distances which divide Orenburg from Tashkend, and the far stretching deserts which now separate

the Russian frontier from the British frontier, could not be passed without vast expenditure, and could not be attempted by a Power crippled by a formidable struggle. Still we should provide against contingencies, and the contingency to be specially apprehended is the gradual annexation of small States and the organization of the natives by General Kaufmann and commanders like unto him, until a dark-skinned army, strong enough to meet our Indian battalions is ready to take the field against us. The exact words of Sir James Stephen are worth quoting:—"The distance," he says, "from Tashkend by Merv to the Caspian is about 750 miles. It is about as far as from Calcutta to Delhi; rather further than from Dover to Cape Wrath. How, then, it may be asked, can a small number of Russians struggling with such difficulties as these and far distant from all reinforcements and from their base of operations be objects of fear to such a Power as British India? I answer, for reasons exactly similar to those which ought to have led the successors of Akbar and Arungzebe to look with dread upon Colonel Clive, his handful of Europeans, and his wretched Bengalee allies. Great enterprises are undertaken by unsettled, anxious people, with their fortunes to make; not by those who have made their fortunes; and the Russians in Turkestan fulfil these conditions." This sentence is well worth considering, and the parallel between the present quasi-independent position of General Kaufmann, and that of Lord Wellesley at the beginning of his career, is full of suggestion and menace. The sum of the matter is this—Central Asia will be divided between England, Russia, and China. It is our duty to secure such a position there as will neutralize the influence of Russia, or at least prevent her from preponderating. Whatever philosophical Liberals may say, the British people will not allow any sentimental regard for the integrity of Shere Ali's domain to interfere with their action. It is to be regretted that we have not all along recognized the fact that Shere Ali is "a barbarian, ignorant of the common amenities which govern the political relations between two independent States," and that to affect to treat him as we should treat Spain or Italy is "to enact a political farce for the amusement of the world and our own humiliation." It is to be hoped that there may be no more mistakes or hesitations. We are by this time embarked in the attempt to bring the ruler of Cabul to his senses, and, whatever losses may have to be encountered, this object must be effected. We shall see what our soldiers will do for us, and though we cannot expect "a tearless battle" we must ultimately succeed. It is satisfactory to have the wisdom of our present action approved by so great a jurist as Sir James Stephen.

THE TERM "SHANGTI."

ALTHOUGH we cannot accept as an inviolable truism the doctrine of Solomon that there is nothing new under the sun, there is still so much truth in it that we scarcely feel surprised when the most modern of controversies is traced back to the early strivings of mankind. The Protestant Missionaries, using that term for want of a better to include those outside the pale of the Roman Church in China, have of late years been exercising themselves much as to the proper term by which to designate God in the Chinese language. Even to outsiders there is a certain amount of interest in the controversy, though we imagine that most of the laity regret the polemics which have been introduced into the discussion. The strife is, however, nothing new. The Roman Missionaries of nearly two hundred years ago wrangled over the same topic with a bitterness exceeding that of the English and American Missionaries of to-day; and their strife was only abated by the high hand of the Pope, Clement XI, who took upon himself to decide the question by a third form which avoided the point in dispute. The strife between Ti and Shen is, however, of older date than this, going back to the old traditions of Iran, when the Asura worshippers separated themselves from the cult of the Devas, and what was held most sacred by the Indians was accursed by their northern neighbours, with the curious result that the modern Romanesque words for God and Devil are both derived from the one primitive root, div, to shine; in the one case evolved by the natural growth of the language, in the other bodily introduced from the Iranian cult through the medium of the Greek *Diabolos*. Now it is not a little remarkable that in this strife of words, the older Chinese students stand at an infinitely higher level than their successors. Dr. Medhurst had a much more definite idea of the meaning of the word Ti, than any of his followers in the controversy; and it is indicative of the general soundness of Dr. Williams's scholarship, that, notwithstanding his dissent from Dr. Medhurst's conclusions, he quotes approvingly in his recent pamphlet the latter's definition. Had the controversy been carried out on the lines laid down by Dr. Medhurst, the strife would long before this have been concluded; but unfortunately, Dr. Medhurst's followers, with more zeal and less knowledge introduced into their formularies the term Shangti, supposing (a supposition for which there was not the slightest foundation), that the ancient Chinese had adopted a monotheistic cult, and that the name of the Supreme Deity thus worshipped was Shangti. In point of fact the upholders of the Shangti theory were unable to distinguish pantheism from monotheism; and the pantheistic philosophy of Confucius and his successors, which sprang really from a previous polytheism, was confused with a

monotheism more strict than that of the later Jews. It is noticeable how thus judaistic tendency has prevailed amongst the latter missionaries in China. We have had occasion to notice it before, when commenting on the proceedings of the Missionary Conference of May, 1877, and to contrast it with the Christianity of the New Testament. The missionaries of to-day are not content to worship God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, but address their devotions to Jehovrah and Elohim, names, so far as the Apostolic writings inform us, never so much as mentioned by the divine Founder of the Christian religion. Our Lord himself could say "*Pneuma ho Theos*," 帝是神; and did missionaries but follow his example, much of the strife which has separated them into two bodies would become a thing of the past. Dr. Williams points out so many strong objections to the use of the word Shangti, that it seems difficult to comprehend how it could have recommended itself to any large section of missionaries. The name has in effect been most unfortunate in its association; and its connection with the Hwen-t'ien Shangti and the Yuh Hwang Shangti should make its advocates pause before introducing it into Christian formularies. The relation of Shangti with the Yang principle pointed out by Canon McClatchie likewise renders its use inadvisable. In modern Chinese the term has come to have a meaning nearly as definite as Zeus or Apollon, and the missionary who uses it as the true definition of God is apt, as has often occurred, to have his worship and teaching confounded with that of the Taoist deities on the one hand, or, on the other, with the pantheistic Shangti of the imperial cult. The only argument of any weight for the employment of the term is, that in the older classics of the Chinese, worship is paid to Shangti as the supreme deity; but upon investigation this argument proves as ill founded as the rest. There is no single passage in the Shi-king, the most authentic repertory of ancient Chinese tradition, which necessitates the use of Shangti in the singular number. On the contrary there are many where we seem called on to translate the word in the plural. The genius of the language is besides in favour of our translating Shang-ti as *dii superi* rather than *Deus Supremus*; and when we find that How-tshih, T'ien-tsze, Fang-shuh, Sze-yin, and other deities are admitted into the category of the gods above, we must conclude that a polytheistic rather than a monotheistic use of the word prevailed. Even granting that Shang-ti means *Deus Supremus*, the very word points to a polytheistic origin so clearly that it is not easy to perceive how students could have accepted it in any other light. Too much dependence in this matter on native teachers, to whom the distinction

between pantheism and monotheism was a matter difficult to explain, must have been the original of the error. But though the compound Shang-ti is unfitted for use as the equivalent of God, it yet contains the true equivalent. Even Dr. Legge has to acknowledge that in the Shi-king, Shang-ti and Ti are interchangeable; and the meaning of this we can comprehend when we come to translate aright the appellation Shang as meaning simply those dwelling above. Ti 帝 is, in fact, the old Chinese correlative for the devas of the Sanscrit speaking people, the *dii* and *theoi* of the Romans and Greeks. It is quite in consonance with this view of the matter that Yao and Shun are in the Shu-king denominated ti, for in them we must find the correlatives of the Varuna and Vishnu of the neighbouring Indian cult: but it is not till we advance into the more modern Chinese writings that we meet with such a designation for their successor Yü. Similarity of form as well as similarity of use thus leads us to connect ti and deus; and a careful study of the uses of the word, unembarrassed by its compromising adjunct, will convince most impartial students that Dr. Medhurst was not far from the proper solution of the term. Unluckily, false analogies led him to permit the use of the term Shangti as an equivalent, and this use unfortunately, in the practice of those who followed him, led to the separation which has taken place between the two parties. Had the strife been one of Ti or Shen, it would have been readily adjusted; but to a large section of able missionaries who saw the degradation into which the term Shangti had been dragged by later Chinese superstition, it seemed that its use was really equivalent to the adoption of the accursed thing. Seeking about for some word to express the Christian idea of divinity, they lighted upon Shen 神, a word probably harmless in itself, though certainly applied by Chinese, ancient and modern, in a lower sense than the term 帝 Ti. Now it is curious to find that even here our analogies do not desert us. Ti, as we have said, is the equivalent, or rather the analogue, of the Vedic Deva, and in the same manner we must connect the word Shen with Asura, its phonetic equivalent. As we have hinted above, the history of the word is curious. Originally derived from the root *as*, to be, it had in the oldest poems with which we are acquainted, the meaning, *living, spiritual*, a use which long survived in the word *asn*, *spirit, exhalation*; and with the word *deva*, the *shining*, was used for the deities of the Vedic pantheon. When, however, the two branches of the Aryas separated, and the Iranians, adopting monotheism, took Ahura (the Zend equivalent of the Sanscrit asura) Mazdao as their name for the Deity, changing the devas into demons, the Vedic branch retaliated by making the *Asuras* the enemies of the gods, and a

strife arose between devas and asuras in many respects the equivalent of that now going on in China. For our own part, while we would prefer the simple term Ti as the truest analogue of Deus, we do not see that its adoption would affect the consciences of either party in the struggle. The adjectives shang, shen, how or others, are applicable to Him in His various manifestations, as the God who dwells on High, Spiritual in His essence, and Ruler over Heaven and Earth. The Church in her formularies speaks of God most High, but forbids us not to address Him as our Heavenly Father; why should Missionaries in China be found to wrangle over the precise epithet by which He is alone to be addressed? To those who seek to end an unseemly quarrel we would recommend the prayer in the collect for S.S. Philip and James's day, "O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life; Grant us perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth and the life."

JAPAN AND COREA.

On the 29th of May, 1876, all Yedo was astir, and a group of strangely clad and eccentric figures were welcomed with the parade of Japanese etiquette to the capital and the Court of the Mikado. The most prominent personages of the party were two old men clad in wire-work hats, with clumsy shoes and monstrous spectacles, who walked supported on the arms of secretaries, like the Jewish lawgiver between Aaron and Hur. Their servants carried tridents and blew conch shells and beat queer drums, as they moved with pompous steps along the platform of the railway station to the chairs of state in which they were borne to the place prepared for them. These fossil-like veterans were the Corean Ambassadors, the representatives of the most conservative and isolated country in the world, who were forced most unwillingly out of their shells to reconcile certain difficulties that had arisen between their Government and the Sovereign of progressive Japan. This ceremonial, then, which those who witnessed it will not easily forget, was the outward symbol of an interesting and important event, viz., the admission of Corea into the comity of Asiatic nations. A commercial convention was concluded between Corea and Japan, and some hopes were entertained that the obstinate resistance to foreign ideas, which had been for centuries the traditional policy of the strange nation, would be changed. Such, however, does not seem to be the case. The very limited commerce permitted between Japan and Corea has been fruitful in quarrels and misunderstandings, and, if we may believe the *Japan Mail*, Japan may be forced into a war with the most stupid and absurd nation now existing in the world. It would be a blessing to mankind if the Coreans

were humbled and brought to their senses. The chances seem to us in favour of a war. The Mikado's Government has sent an Envoy to Corea, and there seems to be every probability that the Japanese mission will be treated with scanty courtesy and their demands rejected. If so, the fiery temper of the Japanese will not be slow to resent the affront, and the Mikado will be obliged to declare war with Corea. The effect of this action, however, will bring another Power upon the scene. The Emperor of China has had for many hundreds of years the right of veto upon the accession to the Korean kingship. Thus the belligerent action of Japan may rouse the great Empire under whose wing Corea shelters itself, to try conclusions with the restless enterprising island Power which has scorned her example and provokingly chosen the perilous paths of Western progress. China, if she is wise, will resist the temptation to draw the sword, and will leave Japan to take care of the obstinate Coreans. If we look carefully at the position of the two countries, neither China nor Japan are in a position to fight. The rebellion of last year has taxed the resources of Japan severely, and she is not in a state to bear any extra strain on her finances, and the efforts of France and America prove that it is not easy to invade Corea. On the other hand, China is exhausted by the terrible famine which has diminished the population and drained the wealth of the northern provinces; and the support of Tso's armies, as our Yokohama contemporary points out, is a ruinous source of expenditure to the Imperial treasury. If we suppose, then, that it is inevitable that Corea will sooner or later take such action as shall oblige Japan to insist on her treaty rights, we should be pleased to see China keep aloof, and at all events not interfere with the Japanese. It is the game of Russia to set China and Japan against each other, and to foment all causes of quarrel between them; but, really, the interests of both are identical. Resistance of the aggression of the common enemy should be the policy of Peking and of Yedo. The line taken by Japan during the last twenty years has alienated her from China, and there are Chinese statesmen who would like to see the island power suffer defeat; but the injury inflicted by China on Japan would really be an injury to herself. It is desirable to teach the absurd barbarians of the peninsula that they must observe conventions, and the sooner they are taught their own ignorance and folly the better; but the task of enforcing the performance of their obligations on the Coreans may be left to the Government they have offended. China may do good service by backing up the demands of Japan, but she will make a fatal blunder if she listens to those conservative instincts which would lead her to help Corea by going to war with Japan.

VOLTAIRE ON CHINA.

WE have frequently called attention to the influence of Voltaire in forming that popular view of China and the Chinese which prevailed up to a very recent date in Europe. It suited the great sceptical philosopher's purpose to elevate China in order that he might depress and degrade Christian civilization. He delighted to point to the antiquity of the Middle Kingdom. "There is no house in Europe," he says, "the antiquity of which is so well proved as that of the Empire of China." He delighted to rebut the charge of Atheism brought against the dark-haired race "at the other end of the world," and denounced it as "the meanest excess of our follies and pedantic inconsistencies." The medical practice of the Chinese seemed to Voltaire on a par with that of France: "their physicians do not cure mortal diseases any more than our own, and minor diseases both here and in China are cured by nature alone." Very different was the view of China taken by a contemporary of Voltaire, whose works are now seldom read, but who filled a large place in the literary history of the Revolution epoch. Few students open that vivid and eloquent volume, crowded with glowing sentences and fantastic paradoxes, "*Ruines on Meditations sur les Revolutions des Empires*," yet there are many pages which would repay the reader for the time spent over them, and many truths to be picked out from between the showy mosaic of fact and fancy with which every chapter abounds. In the notes, we find some remarks on China, which will bear reproduction. Volney did not for a moment regard China as a model for Europe. He had no sympathy with the view Voltaire had endeavoured too successfully to promulgate. He took a despairing and a low view of the state of Asia. The abuses of European systems might be numerous, but it seemed to him that the state of the venerable Oriental Empires was far worse than the condition of matters in Europe. Volney, who lived through and shuddered at the excesses of the Reign of Terror, still regarded China as having attained a lower depth: "All Asia is buried in the most profound darkness. The Chinese, subjected to an insolent despotism, dependent for their fortune on the decision of lots, and held in awe by strokes of the bamboo, enslaved by the immutability of their code, and by the irremediable vice of their language, offer to my view an abortive civilization and a race of automata"—these sentences are of course over-hasty generalizations. Volney, with all his brilliant qualities, was unable by intuition to penetrate the secrets of the Chinese policy, and to comprehend how much real freedom there is in the Eighteen Provinces. He quotes a translation of a narrative of two Mahomedan travellers in the ninth century, and deduces from the

story the fact that "the Emperor calls himself the Son of Heaven, that is of God; for in the opinion of the Chinese, the material heaven, the arbiter of fatality, is the Deity Himself." He informs us that the aforesaid Emperor only shows himself once in ten months, lest the people, accustomed to see him, might lose their respect; for he holds it as a maxim, that Power can only be supported by force, that the people have no idea of justice, and are not to be governed but by coercion. He persists in believing that all the abuses which were rife in the year 877 were rife in the year 1791; and adds, "Notwithstanding what is asserted by the Missionaries, this situation has undergone no change. The bamboo still reigns in China, and the Son of Heaven bastinades for the most trivial fault the mandarin, who in his turn bastinades the people. The Jesuits may tell us that this is the best governed country in the world, and its inhabitants the happiest of men, but a single letter from Amyot has convinced me that China is a truly Turkish Government." Here, of course, there is a strange mixture of truth and suggestion. It was impossible for Volney to give an accurate idea of the complicated system of Chinese Government, and it is possible that prejudice made him write the lines we have quoted. But he possibly grasped the truth in his utterance on the language of China: "As long as the Chinese shall in writing make use of their present characters, they can be expected to make no progress in civilization. The necessary introductory steps must be the giving them an alphabet like our own." Many thoughtful students of this mysterious nation hold the view which Volney was the first to express.

Outports.

PEKING.

Our correspondent says on the 17th Nov., we had a fall of nearly an inch of snow, and the thermometer has been down to 18° Fahr. above zero. This is unusually early. The fall of snow has been hailed with great satisfaction. We have had a succession of cloudy days, so unlike our usually clear weather at this season. Our residents are preparing skating rinks, one inside the city and the other near the racecourse.

The Legations still remain comparatively empty—the French and Peruvian Ministers being the only ones at their post. In the spring we suffered severe losses by the departure of so many of our residents; in the spring and summer, typhus fever thinned the ranks still more; and now, in the autumn, we have lost a number more. The oldest resident here, the venerable Archimandrite of the Greek Church, has been obliged to leave on account of failing health. He is one of our most learned sinologists, and the author of numerous works. He has a Chinese-Russian dictionary in hand and well forward, but it must stand in abeyance for the time. We hope he will be spared for many years to come, and perhaps to return to us. We can ill afford to lose men like Mayers and Palladius. Mr. Hagen, our teacher of Russian and German in the College, has also left us for a season, having

accompanied H.E. Chunghow to Russia. We are not likely to be favoured this winter with either Sir T. Wade or the Inspector General. The departure of the new Minister to England is another of the losses that is felt in the family circle of not a few, where he was an especial favorite. His affable and agreeable manners, his gentlemanly bearing, and his great scholarship, made him a companion of whom one never tired. He did not shine in his English, of which he spoke a little, although the acquisition of that little indicated a master spirit and a capacity for work; but he was a master of all subjects in his native tongue, and several departments he had made his own exclusively. Few men in the Empire could have written that splendid epitaph which he composed on his late lamented friend Mr. Mayers; and no other Chinaman alive in his position, and with his name and prospects, would have permitted the publication of it in the *Monthly Educator*, a magazine published at Peking under one or two foreign missionaries. In that epitaph, besides enlarging upon Mr. Mayers, he enters into a long history of his connection with foreigners, and refutes beforehand all the possible objections that might be brought against him by the literati. He manfully and courageously threw down the gauntlet, and staked his reputation and success in life, upon his connection with foreigners, when his appointment as Minister to England was considered a probable event, and against the expressed wishes of many of his warmest friends, who thought it might do him harm. His writing and style are not to be surpassed. It is a pity that our people will never be in a position to value the abilities of such a man. China is to be congratulated on this, as in fact in all her foreign appointments.—Since writing the above, we learn that Sir T. Wade will not arrive here before the spring. Leaving England in November, he will visit India and confer doubtless with the Indian Government on the opium question, which is one of the clauses not ratified in the Chefoo Convention, and probably also arrange for the opening up of the new route to China by Yunnan.

Apropos of opium, it is understood here that a memorial from a few of the Protestant Missionaries on the subject was addressed to the newly-appointed Minister to England.

Mr. Fraser, the British Chargé d'Affaires here, has left the capital to await his Chief in the South, and thereafter to proceed to Europe to join his family.

More snow has since fallen here, and altogether there is every prospect of a capital wheat harvest next year.

25th Nov.

NEWCHWANG.

Our correspondent writes:—The s.s. *Yungching* left the port yesterday at noon, and the ice came down a few hours later.—The Customs lorchas and three of the pilot-boats are docked for the winter, and the pilot schooner *F. P. Knight* is to leave for Shanghai to undergo some necessary repairs.

The first overland Courier of the season starts to-day for Tientsin, and the line will be continued weekly under Customs management. The rates of postage charged are high, but this no doubt is due to the expenses incident on starting a new system, and it is to be hoped that the Customs in future years may be able to lower their rates without impairing the efficiency of their mail service.

Merchants and others at the coast ports, who wish to write to friends at Newchang during the winter, must prepay the postage in Chinese stamps, or their correspondence will be liable to be detained in Shanghai.

23rd Nov.

TIENTSIN.

Our correspondent writes:—The work upon the telegraph line between Tientsin and Taku has fairly commenced, and should the wire and instruments arrive before the closing of the river, the line will be in working order next spring. The following proclamation has been issued by H.E. Chung Tang, and emanating from such a source there is little fear of interruption:—

Proclamation.

Kwang Su, 4th year, 10th month, 29th day.

Take notice; by order of the Imperial Commissioner the Earl Li.

It is ordered that the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company have permission to erect a line of telegraphs from Tientsin to Taku Ports, for the transaction of official business, and to know when the steamers come and go. The work of putting up the poles has commenced, and in due course the wires will be erected; but during the progress of the work, it is feared some stupid people in the villages may pull up and steal the poles, or secretly break down the wires and thus cause trouble.

Now due notice is given that the soldiers and people, and all of you, should abstain for ever from molesting the poles, wires, &c., along the high road, for if you do, severe punishment will surely follow, and no excuse be accepted.

Give heed and remember.

Signed by H.E. CHEN, *Haiwan Taotai*.

„ „ H.E. LIU, *Tientsin Taotai*.

The coal mining at Kai-ping in getting on well. The boring has reached a depth of 475 feet, passing through six seams of good coal, one seam three feet thick and another eight feet. It is proposed to carry the boring to a depth of 550 feet.

The weather continues unusually mild, and there is every prospect of the river remaining open for another fortnight.

29th Nov.

Last Saturday (30th ult.) we had a strong northerly wind all day, the result of which was to cause the ponds to freeze over, and to form a good deal of floating ice in the river. The nights are cold, and unless the weather moderates, the ponds will afford fine skating in a day or two. But the river will not close so long as the present fine weather continues.

The most important news item among us is the transfer by the C.M.S.N. Co. of all its tug and lightering equipments belonging here, to the Taku Tug-boat Company, which transfer was effected on the 28th ult. These consist of the hulk *Aden*, anchored outside the bar, four iron lighters, and the tugs *Lee Hong* and *Arrow*. Another small tug is considered useless, and is not included in the transfer. The terms of agreement are, I understand, that for the use of these vessels, the Taku Company is to pay yearly Tls. 5,000. All necessary repairs, whether arising from accident or from wear and tear, all depreciation in value, and the loss of time resulting from breakage or accident, necessitating repairs, are matters for which the Taku Company is in no way responsible. Moreover, the loss of time is to be made good to the Taku Co., by the C.M.S.N. Co.

This arrangement is made, it is said, because the C.M.S.N. Co. cannot make them pay and by this plan, they hope to make something over and above the cost of repairs, depreciation, &c.

We look but for a few more steamers up the river, though we hope to have communication with them at Taku for some time yet. We have already had 8° or 9° of frost.

2nd Dec.

AMOY.

The *Amoy Gazette* says that at 3.30 a.m. on the 23rd ult., a severe shock of earthquake was felt at Amoy and Kulangsu consisting of three vibrations which lasted for about one minute or a little more. The 2nd and 3rd being of long duration. Such an occurrence is rather extraordinary, this port never having experienced so violent a shock. No accident has happened to any foreign residences. Commenting on the occurrence, the *Gazette* says, "The earthquake at half past three this morning may be regarded as one of the severest shocks ever experienced in Amoy. The time of duration is of course a matter of doubt, but all seem to be of opinion that the vibration lasted at least thirty seconds. Beyond the demolition of a wall or two, little or no damage appears to have been done, and we may congratulate ourselves upon so fortunate a termination to what appeared at the time a most unpleasant feeling of insecurity. We shall doubtless hear of the phenomenon having occurred in Formosa, or the Philippine Islands." On the 24th at about 5.10 a.m. another shock of earthquake, less violent and of shorter duration, was felt at Amoy and Kulangsu. It lasted about fifteen seconds.—A house at Chiun Quieng road fell down on the 21st ult., and a young man was buried in the ruin. The fall is attributed to the bad construction of the house. The *Gazette* learns that the parents of the young man are claiming for damage an exorbitant sum of money, and that the proprietor of the house is willing to pay only \$500; but, as the case is now pending in the hands of Chinese authorities, it is believed that the proprietor will cost more than what he is intending to pay for (sic.)

The same paper understands that the British ship *Arabia* has been sold at auction for \$5,500, and that a Chinaman was the purchaser.—To judge from the following paragraph, copied from the *Gazette*, St. Andrew's anniversary was not celebrated at Amoy altogether successfully:—"The rage and despair of the French cook at the small attendance at the Scotch dinner on St. Andrew's night were terrible to behold. He poulticed the Secretary's face with the haggis and then ejaculated with an accent, produced probably by the new brand of whiskey supplied to the Club, 'Hech Sirs, weel I ken the Amoy folk are 'unco canny, abody wader rather pocket the siller than spend a baubee on his ain inside.'"—The Government of the Philippine Islands forbids, until further orders, the introduction of all classes of French coin into those islands.—Subscriptions to the "David Manson Memorial Hospital," to be erected in Takao, now amount to nearly \$3,000, and subscribers thereto will be pleased to hear that the work will be commenced very shortly. Chinese officials and merchants in Takao and Taiwan-foo have come forward most liberally, and in some cases have given purely out of respect to the memory of him, whose labors in former years they so much appreciated.

FOOCHOW.

The *Herald* says it is now officially reported that Ting Futai is prevented by ill-health from leaving his ancestral home near Swatow. The steamer sent south to convey His Excellency to Foochow has returned without him. This rumoured illness is, the *Herald* believes, feigned. The truth is that a bitter enmity exists between Ting and the Viceroy; hence, the alleged unwillingness of the former to take up the Wu-shih-shan affair.—In the matter of the arrests lately made by the native authorities on account of the Wu-shih-shan Riot, we are in a position to state positively that several of these wretched prisoners are perfectly innocent of any share in the outrage in question. The arrests have been confined to the immediate neighbourhood

of the mission chapels, with a view, no doubt, to excite the friendly and well disposed inhabitants against the missionaries. The excitement in the city last Friday and Monday was very great; and the indignation of the people was loudly expressed at this indiscriminate persecution of innocent men. With characteristic cunning and duplicity, the authorities have, however, caused it to be made generally known that they have been prevailed upon to arrest these unhappy persons solely at the instance of the British Consul. Ling and confrères are still at large, and it is said make no attempt at concealment. How much longer, asks the *Herald*, it may be asked, will this parody of justice be allowed to continue?—A distinct shock of earthquake was experienced throughout Foochow at about 3.45 a.m. on the 23rd ult. The movement lasted about forty seconds, and appeared to come from a north-westerly direction.

Now that the weather is getting bracing, life and energy appear to be kindling in the breasts of our local sports. A north-easter perhaps causes a man to utter short emphatic sentences anent things horsey as well as spiritual. At all events, the current conversation in bachelor circles is drifting that way, and mysterious allusions to "dark" Mongolian steeds remind us that the annual turf gathering in rapidly approaching. The programme is an excellent one, and should attract larger fields than seem at present probable. From the Tartar Camp we hear that the course is "hard as nails," and that several "mokes" have been "screwed-up" through injudicious "powing."—A cricket match, first v. second half of the alphabet, has been played. The latter won an easy victory, in one innings.

The *Herald*, in its commercial summary of the 28th ult., says a few trifling transactions in Congou, Souchong, and Oolong are reported at about last week's rates. Arrivals from the country have nearly ceased.

Settlements from 21st to 27th Nov. —

		Tls. per picul,
Congou	391 chests.	7½ a 13 (short.)
Souchong	227 " "	11 a 14
Oolong	345 ½-chts.	13½ " "
Total Arrivals. Settlements. Stock.		
Congou	769,513	767,811 1,702 chests.
Souchong	43,400	43,175 225 "
Oolong	35,902	35,702 200 ½-chts.
Flowery Pekoe	5,200	5,105 92 chests.
Scented Tea ...	86,442	84,109 2,333 boxes.

Freight.—To London, per steamer, 30s. per ton of 40 cubic feet. Vessels loading.—For London, nil. For Australia, nil. Vessels expected to load.—For London, steamship *Agamemnon*; and possibly one of the "Glen" steamers. For Australia, sailing-vessel *Kate Waters*.

HONGKONG.

The *China Mail* says it is whispered that another amateur concert will be given in Hongkong in aid of the shareholders in the City of Glasgow Bank. Some of the local amateurs who did not take part in the recent entertainment of a similar kind will, it is expected, aid the concert now spoken of; and the German Liedertafel will again assist.—The Volunteer Shooting Match for two cups presented by one of the officers, has taken place very successfully. The prize for running firing—five rounds at 300, 250, and 200 yards respectively—fell to Private Orley, who scored 34 points in 3 minutes 25 seconds; Moseley being second, having made 30 points in 3 minutes 20 seconds, and the other prize (for 300 yards, 10 shots, kneeling position) fell to Sergeant Whitehead, who made 26 points; Privates Apcar, Orley, and Sampson being ties for second place, each having scored 20 points. When the match was concluded, the prizes were presented by Captain Francis, the recipients returning thanks; and, with three cheers for the officers, the meeting dispersed.

—It may be remembered, says the *Mail*, that Governor Hennessy elected to pay a pension instead of a gratuity to a Chinese lukong who was retiring from service, on the ground that it would be a source of strength to the Government to have a number of men in its pay who had previously served in the Police Force. We understand that His Excellency's commendable idea did not meet with that acceptance on the part of the lukong which his long service and good character might have led us to expect. In point of fact, this Chinese policeman ventured to forward a petition to the Governor, asking His Excellency to reconsider his decision, and to remove the petitioner from the status of a pensioner altogether by payment of his gratuity in a lump sum. This request was very decidedly refused; and now comes the most remarkable part of the affair. Notwithstanding the expressed wish of the Governor to establish a corps of native pensioners in the Colonial service, and the direct refusal to pay the pensioned lukong's gratuity, the Chinese constables in the Police Force have to a man signed a petition, addressed to the Governor, praying that this favourite scheme of His Excellency may be quietly relegated to oblivion, and that the gratuities be paid as before. These preservers of the peace, in fact, decline to be a source of strength and support to the State which maintains them—a fact which suggests the reflection that the said State will not be much the loser by such a course of conduct. These men evidently come here to draw pay in exchange for a minimum of work and a maximum of loafing, and they do not respond to His Excellency's aspirations of loyalty to the British Crown. As there have been heard some very queer rumours about the Chinese Police Force here, we are not so much surprised at this new development; but in the ordinary course of nature, the petition of the lukongs should have a subduing effect upon Mr. Hennessy's great admiration for the Chinese character.

St. Andrew's Ball in Hongkong was, according to the accounts given in the *Daily Press* and *China Mail*, a truly enjoyable anniversary. The assembly must have been one of the largest in Hongkong, for the ball-room and ante-rooms were well filled with a brilliant and fashionable company. The fact that the 74th Highlanders are at present the regiment in garrison tended very much to favour the national character of the gathering; and the Pipers were indispensable to one very important part of the programme. The dancing was kept up with vigour until well into the morning, many of the ladies showing their interest in the proceedings by remaining until the programme was completed. It was worthy of note that the national characteristics of the entertainment were tastefully recognised by many of the ladies and gentlemen, local Thistles or bits of Tartan being shown on every side. Excepting the decorations, the national feature of the ball was the "Strathspey and Reel," which was danced immediately before the guests went in to supper. This was what is generally known as the "foursome reel," and when it is remembered that no less than thirty-two took part in this most effective national dance (six ladies and twenty-six gentlemen), some idea may be formed of the inspiring nature of the performance. If the non-reelers had not formed so impenetrable a wall, enclosing the dancers' feet from admiration and criticism, we might have given an opinion on the "steps," some of which would doubtless have done no discredit to Balmoral or Braemar. But, as it was, it can safely be said that the City Hall floor has never yet been so honoured as it was on this occasion; for a finer reel better danced to livelier music could not have been presented anywhere outside of the Caledonian assemblies in "Auld Reekie," or "Glasgow City." The music was of the true

Highland kind, and to this the dancers were fully alive, as it seemed in truth to

"Put life and mettle in their heels."

The time was perfect; and this event, which was the success of the ball, was very creditable to the ladies and gentlemen who thus revived this feature of a Caledonian Ball.

The *Daily Press* understands that arrangements have been made by the Viceroy of the Two Kwang for the issuing of some sort of transit pass for the two ports of Hoihow and Pakhoi. This no doubt results from the exertions of the European firms in those places, since we understand that no such facilities have yet been arranged for at Canton.—A new Masonic Lodge has been opened in Hongkong, called the St. John, No. 618. This is the first lodge established in Hongkong under the Scotch Constitution. There was a good number of masons present. About twenty five members of the craft have joined the lodge, and on Saturday four brethren were proposed as joining members, and twelve gentlemen as candidates for initiation. The following officers were appointed:—Right Worshipful Master, Brother J. M. Emanuel; Worshipful Senior Warden, Brother T. N. Driscoll; Worshipful Junior Warden, Brother T. Sewell; Hon. Treasurer, Brother J. W. Croker; Hon. Sec., Brother P. H. Emanuel; Senior Deacon, Brother J. Keating; Junior Deacon, Brother A. Johnstone; Inner Guard, Brother W. K. Taylor. The Junior Deacon and Tyler were absent and could not therefore be installed.

The *China Mail* is glad to note that the interest of the Hongkong Volunteers is likely to be kept up by out-door exercises other than mere drills and parades. A shooting match is announced to take place, when two prizes will be shot for. One prize is allotted to the man who makes the best score in the shortest time at 300, 250 and 200 yards, five shots at each range; any position, Snider rifle. The other prize to be shot for will fall to the lot of the non-commissioned officer or private who makes the highest score with 10 shots at 300 yards. Non-attendance at requisite drill may disqualify members.—The same paper understands that a large number of the Hongkong European Police force are down with fever. The weather appears all that could be desired, but the night duty is said to be very trying.

CANTON.

It appears from a circular issued by the Viceroy that the number of houses burnt down in the late fire at Canton was a hundred and eighty-five, and in addition to this number forty were demolished to prevent the spread of the fire.

On the night of 25th instant, a destructive fire broke out at a place called Tung Po, about ten miles east of Canton. About forty houses were destroyed, all trading shops, and the loss is considerable. No lives were lost.—*Daily Press Cor.*

26th Nov.

A collecting station of the Canton opium farmer at Sun Wu has been forcibly demolished by a mob, and the agent in charge and his people severely beaten. All their personal property was either destroyed or carried away, and they themselves made their way as quickly as possible to the city to report the matter to the authorities.—On the night of the 1st instant a fire broke out at Fatshan, and about a hundred shops, it is stated, were destroyed before it was extinguished. It is reported that two lives were lost.—On the 29th ultimo and the 1st instant about twenty criminals were decapitated on the execution ground.—Robberies continue as rife as ever. A day or two ago a raid was made on a druggist's shop near the East Gate by a gang of about twenty-five, when booty to the value of \$300 was carried off.—*Daily Press Cor.*

3rd Dec.

THE STRAITS.

The *Singapore Daily Times* says with reference to Reuter's telegram stating that an attempt had been made to assassinate the King of Italy, and that the President of the Council, Signor Cairoli, had been mortally wounded while seizing the assassin, we are informed by the Italian Consul, the Chevalier Festa, that he has received a telegram stating that King Humbert had been scarcely scratched and Signor Cairoli only slightly wounded.

The same paper is indebted to a correspondent for the following more accurate account of the recent shooting of a tiger. It would seem that tigers are increasing in numbers on the island, or, at all events, are not so scarce as they have been generally believed to be:—"An old Malay man, who looks after a plantation at Teluk Paku, near Tanah Merah, having seen that a good deal of damage was being done by pigs in the plantation, thought he would try and shoot one, so he made a platform about 10 or 15 feet high up in a tree, and watched there all Friday night, without seeing anything. At about 7.30 a.m. on Saturday he saw some sort of an animal come right underneath the tree he was in and sniff round it. He did not know what the animal was, never having seen a tiger in his life. However he was very much frightened that it might be able to reach him, so he thought he had better fire, which he did, hitting the tiger in the back, just behind the shoulder. This shot probably killed it, but he thought he saw it move, so he fired another shot, and hit it in the neck. Then he came down from his perch, and was rather surprised when he found he had killed a tiger. The skeleton, which is perfect, except that the back of the skull is a little broken, will be set up in the Museum. The osteologist of the Museum considers the tiger to be probably about 50 years old. The Malay received the usual reward of \$50 from Government. Another smaller tiger, which was caught at Sirangoon, has been sold privately by the men who caught it. Its mother is still about Sirangoon district and has been wounded."

MANILA.

On the night of the 14th November, at about 10 o'clock, the Captain of the American barque *Masonic* was stabbed in the abdomen by the ship's steward with a table knife, and the wounded man died the following morning between 2 and 3 o'clock, shortly after the arrival on board of Dr. Ricardo Burke, from the injury he received. His remains were interred at the cemetery on the morning of the 15th. The United States Consul at this port went on board the *Masonic* to make the necessary enquiry into the affair and to charge the author of the crime, who, having confessed his guilt, was sent to the Bilibid gaol. The *Masonic* put into Manila on the 5th of November, on her voyage from New York to Nagasaki, with a cargo of kerosine. The wife of the Captain was on board when the crime was committed, and our readers may judge of her great desolation.

News has been received at Manila of a typhoon to the northern coast of Luzon during 14th, 15th and 16th November, and several disasters to the shipping have already been reported; in some cases the whereabouts of some of the vessels were unknown. Among these is the steamer *Butuan*, with a large number of passengers on board.—*Manila Paper*.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* laments that about this time last year it had occasion to refer to the gradual thinning in the numbers of the Nagasaki community, and again it has to refer to another seeming exodus, this time perhaps more irreparable than the last. Nagasaki is losing several of its

oldest residents, in addition to those already gone, and it is remembered with regret that many of their places will not be refilled. Wherever they go, however, the *Sin* wishes them success, and while regretting their departure, expresses the hope that they will look back to the time spent in Nagasaki as not altogether the most unpleasant episode of their lives.—The same paper says that a considerable number of counterfeit (Japanese) twenty cent pieces are in circulation, and the fraud has been ingeniously effected by electro-plating half-sen, after the characters have been duly altered. While on the subject of 20 sen pieces we may be pardoned, says the *Sin*, for referring to the great want experienced here of an ampler supply both of the 10 sen and the larger pieces. The reason is not difficult to seek, and to anyone requiring say a hundred dollars' worth of small Japanese money, we would offer this advice, send to Hongkong, which colony at present seems to be flooded with the small money of this country. So much so is this the case, that the Governor has issued a notification to the effect that 10% discount will be charged on this small change. On the other hand, we hear that at Singapore the silver pieces are welcome, and are taken readily at par, so that it seems this country is supplying a great felt want both in Hongkong and the Straits, while nothing in the shape of silver coinage stops long in Japan, where the standard seems to be little better than paper.—St. Andrew's day has passed by without a sign of recognition on the part of the Scots, who are to be found in every rank of life in Nagasaki. It had been hoped that friends from north of the Tweed, who number some eighteen or twenty, would have made an effort to celebrate the festival of their patron saint, but it seems that no one was ready to come forward and suggest the idea, perhaps from fear of the cold water which generally accompanies all attempts of the kind.—H.I.R.M.S. *Boyan* arrived at Nagasaki from Yokohama via Kobe on the 27th ult., when salutes were exchanged with the Fort. The *Craysser* arrived on the following day. The *Ernak* is over at Akunoura for repairs. H.M.S. *Egeria* has returned from Quelpart and Corea. The *Sylvia* returned from her cruise on the 3rd inst. U.S.S. *Ranger* is expected to leave for Kobe and the North. H.I.R.M.S. *Boyan* left on the 3rd for the South.—A fracas, which may possibly result fatally, has occurred between some American and Russian sailors. There are very few particulars to hand, but it is said that a sailor from the *Craysser* was badly stabbed. This vessel which intended accompanying the *Boyan*, was detained in consequence.

HIOGO.

A series of most interesting ceremonies in connection with the dedication of a native Christian Church has recently taken place in Koba. The building, which is of wood, is capable of seating about 450 people, and there is a gallery at the end fronting the street large enough to hold fifty more; this is intended to be used as a Sunday-school, for which purpose it is well adapted, as, by means of folding screens, it can be readily isolated from the body of the church. The total cost of the building, land, &c., has been \$1,436, to meet which the sum \$1,440.80 has been collected. There is thus a small balance in hand, with which to commence the work of the church; a state of things which must be very satisfactory to those who have laboured to produce such a result. The contributions have been principally derived from the Japanese themselves, but many kind friends in the settlement have helped along the cause with liberal donations.—Three Japanese sailors have been rescued by the Russian man-of-war *Boyan*, from a disabled timber junk, just as they, seeing no hope of escape, were on the point of committing suicide.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Gazette* says the political horizon is still clouded. Soyeshima had not definitively taken office according to our latest advices, and from many sources we receive conflicting reports of the causes of division. Japan undoubtedly looks upon Soyeshima with expectant hope, and his hesitation in accepting the high position which is believed to have been offered to him gives rise to great and natural anxiety. From all the *Gazette* hears there is a strong desire on the part of the Government to secure the support of a man of ability so popular among the best classes of the people; but the views entertained, or said to be entertained by Soyeshima, on the subject of representative government, have met with considerable opposition from many of the most experienced members of the Ministry, who consider such a movement at least premature, if not a direct political error.—It is said that great distress exists in the Satsuma country, and that once well-to-do landed proprietors, farmers, and shopkeepers, are in utter destitution. The Saigo rebellion has brought terrible consequences, and it is believed the sufferings of the unhappy people cannot be remedied for years to come, as a long time must elapse before the ravages of the war are effaced.—A fresh trial of the suit *Iwasaki Yataro v. Captain Colomb, R.N.*, was to take place in H.B.M.'s Court on the 4th Dec., before Mr. Acting Law-Secretary Wilkinson and a jury. The case was heard at the end of June of last year, on which occasion the plaintiff claimed \$1,400 compensation for damage done to the *Chiri Maru* by H.B.M.'s *Audacious* on the night of the 11th June, and a further sum of \$150 a day demurrage for twenty days—in all \$4,400. After a hearing which occupied six days, the jury were unable to arrive at a unanimous decision, and were accordingly discharged.—At 11h. 7m. p.m. on the 22nd ultimo (the day preceding the shocks at Hongkong, Canton, Fatsan, Macao, &c.), there was an earthquake at Yokohama, and at 11h. 18m. 30s. another. The first was of much more than ordinary power: it seemed to be a continuous wave travelling from E.S.E. to W.N.W., and its duration exceeded one minute. The second shock was slight, and apparently from the same direction. The following letter is interesting, as it gives useful particulars of the influence of the shock upon vessels lying in the harbour:—"Yesterday at 11h. 7m. p.m. a severe *tremblement de terre* was felt on my charge (the *Atago Maru*.) I was in the cabin at the time. Suddenly the ship commenced to shake and tremble considerably. There were two such severe shocks as to make me doubt whether the ship had taken the ground or not. The lead, however, convinced me that this was unlikely. Nevertheless, the shaking of chains and rudder, the cracking of partitions, and the bumping of the ship as if in a short head-sea, startled all on board. The ship was headed south; and as there was pitching, but no rolling, the earthquake must have travelled in a southerly or northerly direction. It lasted about one minute."

In Nippon Notes, the *Gazette* translates that the construction of the long talked of railway between Kioto and Osaka has much progressed under the superintendence of Mr. Inouye, Director of the Railway Department. It is expected that the whole of the year 1879 will be occupied in its completion.—Out of 900,000 silkworm cards which have been brought to Yokohama this year, about 300,000 have been purchased and exported by foreigners, and the remainder are in the hands of natives who are anxious to sell them off lest there should be any decline in their value. The matter being situated thus, the wholesale dealers in silkworms' eggs held meetings at the Town Hall, the result being that ten of the largest dealers are to purchase all the cards now in hand, 600,000 in number. Of these the best quality will be taken up to the number

of 300,000 for purposes of export, and the remainder will be burned or thrown away, following the example of last year.

JAPAN AND COREA.

Translating from the *Choya Shimbun*, the *Japan Herald* gives the following extract:—"It has already been mentioned, how the Korean Government had imposed a heavy tax on all imports and exports, exchanged between Japanese and Koreans. Our Consul made representations on the subject to the Korean Government, but the reply was that the taxes were levied upon its own subjects, and that foreigners had no concern therewith. Our Consul then communicated this state of affairs to our countrymen there, whereupon the inhabitants of Tsushima island, being, from long intercourse, familiar with the localities of Corea, under pretext of trading within treaty limits, pushed forward to the neighborhood of Foo-san-kai. Here they saw the Korean examining officers and remonstrated very strongly with them, pointing out that they had, up to the present time, lent several hundred thousand yen to the Koreans, and that they were very much troubled at such heavy taxes being placed upon the goods which they now take in repayment of the money loaned. The examining officer experienced great difficulty in giving them an answer, and after promising the Japanese to give them a reply after he had consulted with the authorities at Torai Fu, he set out immediately for that place. A large number of Japanese therefore passed the night where they were, and awaited, until the next day, the return of the officer who, however, failed to come back. The Japanese therefore determined on entering into direct communication with the Torai Fu authorities, and they immediately proceeded to meet them. At this, however, the Koreans, becoming disquieted, rang alarm bells and took precautionary defensive measures, and, for a time, so great was the confusion that it seemed as though a struggle were about to take place between the Koreans and the Japanese in front of the gate of the Torai Fu. At last, however, quiet was restored, and the Japanese succeeded in opening up direct communications with the authorities. At last the latter made a verbal agreement with the Japanese, that the matter should be postponed for thirty days, and that meanwhile the question of these taxes should be referred to the Capital. The Japanese also received a written agreement from the authorities, that all goods whatsoever that were taken in part repayment of money previously loaned, should be delivered free of taxes. The Japanese then returned to their settlement. Commerce with Corea has been entirely stopped since the commencement of the levying of these taxes, and all the goods—such as shirtings, &c., which have been taken there by steamers, remain unsold in the godowns of the settlement.

The *Gazette* extracts from the *Echo du Japon* the following important information with reference to the above subject:—"Mr. Hanabusa, Secretary to the Department of Foreign Affairs, with his Secretary Mr. Kondo of the same Department, has embarked on board the iron-clad *Hiyei-Kan* for Corea, where a serious conflict had occurred between the Japanese merchants and the natives, on the subject of the new Customs tariff. The Japanese Consul immediately protested to the Korean Government, and the two officers whose departure is announced, have very strict categorical instructions, the Japanese Government having decided not to yield.

The *Gazette* adds, that with respect to the above matter it hears from Tokio that certain preparations have been ordered by the Imperial Government, military as well as naval, so as to be ready to meet any requirements for a land and sea attack upon Corea.

Peking Gazette.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

October 16th.—(1) A decree expressing the Imperial regret at the intelligence of the death of Yi-t'ing, Deputy Lieutenant-General of the Mongol division of the bordered blue banner corps, and Sub-chancellor of the Grand Secretariat. All official penalties recorded against his name are to be remitted, and the proper yamen are to see that the honours are paid to his memory to which he is entitled by law.

(2) Memorial from Li Hung-chang commending to His Majesty's most favourable notice the services of Wu Ta-ch'eng, Compiler of the Han-lin, who, at memorialist's request, was placed under his orders to be employed in the work of famine relief. He has now been engaged on this duty for almost a year, during which time he has been unceasing in his activity day and night. He has braved the vicissitudes of cold and heat, made enquiries everywhere for those in sickness or distress, and soothed their sufferings when they were in need of comfort, showing for them the beautiful tenderness of a father or mother towards their children. There are few places in which the people have so literally enjoyed the full benefits of the relief that was supplied for them as those in which he laboured. If a post to which the smallest amount of power and independence of action are attached be given to this man, he has the power and the capability to keep the people true to their country and turn back the tide of those national calamities which periodically visit the land. In an Imperial decree of the month of April last, provincial high authorities were commanded to recommend to His Majesty all officers under their notice whose abilities were above the common, and whose official character was free from corruption, and memorialist feels sure that Wu Ta-ch'eng would not do discredit to any preference that might be bestowed upon him. He would therefore reverently pray His Majesty to break through the rules of official routine, and record the name of Wu Ta-ch'eng for special employment in an important capacity. Rescript.—Let Wu Ta-ch'eng be sent to the Board for presentation to Us as soon as his present duties are accomplished.

October 17th.—(1) A decree conferring military distinctions on a number of officers who have been recommended by K'i Yuan, Acting-Governor of F'eng-t'ien, for energy displayed in the capture of a notorious bandit chief, Shao Si-lai by name.

(2) Ts'eng Kwoh-ts'uan, Governor of Shansi, reports the death by suicide of the Magistrate of the K'in-yuan district and his wife. Inquiries conducted by the Prefect of Ping-yang, in whose jurisdiction the district in question lies, showed that the late Magistrate Yu Chung-t'ê by name, had made himself ill by hard work in connection with famine relief, and while in a bad state of health he was harassed by anxiety and distress owing to the failure of rain in the spring, and when rain did at last fall, the desolation and depopulation around him, and the impossibility of collecting Imperial taxes, weighed so heavily on his mind that he put an end to his life in his sorrow and impatience. His wife refused food after his death, and soon followed him. The truth of this account was established by the testimony of relatives of the deceased, their own servants, and the neighbouring gentry and notables. The memorialist ventures to solicit from His Majesty a mark of Imperial approbation for the deceased pair.—Granted by Rescript.

No other documents of importance.

October 18th.—(1) A decree appointing Ki Ko 繼格 to the post of deputy Lieutenant-General of the Mongol division of the Bordered Red banner corps.

(2) An appeal case reported by the Court of Censors. A literary graduate from Kirin, Ts'ao Kiang by name, complains that two brothers, local bullies, possessed of some property, made an attempt, through a woman with whom they had already had improper relations, to seduce his aunt, and that the latter having rejected their overtures, they made a raid on her house in the absence of her husband and tried to force their way indoors. She barricaded the door, and her screams having attracted the notice of the neighbours, her persecutors decamped. The aunt, however, ashamed and mortified at the insult that had been done her, committed suicide, whereupon the brothers seized her husband and locked him up until he undertook to bury the body and not report the death to the authorities. The petitioner then brought a charge against them, but one of the brothers bribed a clerk in the sub-Prefect's yamen in which the complaint was laid, to seize petitioner's uncle and his nephew and lock them up. He also paid a woman of loose character to personate a relative of the deceased and make certain false statements, upon which the sub-Prefect dismissed the case. Petitioner's uncle then appealed to the supreme provincial court, but was brought back and imprisoned, being subjected to such rigorous treatment in his captivity that he died. A further appeal to the Military Governor resulted in the relegation of the case to the local court, with a repetition of the delays and obstructions that had earlier been complained of. Referred as usual.

The remainder of this day's *Gazette* is occupied with memorials upon matters of ordinary official routine.

Public Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Council Room, 17, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, the 2nd December, 1878, at 9.30 o'clock a.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. Hart (chairman), R. H. Artindale, P. G. Hübbe, E. H. Lavers, E. G. Low, R. Mackenzie, J. H. Wisner, G. Withers, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting are read, confirmed, signed and passed for publication.

The Cash Statement, for the 30th November, is submitted for inspection, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANÇAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 27 Novembre, 1878, sous la présidence de M. E. Millot. Conseillers présents:—M. M. G. Bluntschli, H. Vinay, and H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Approbation du procès-verbal de la séance du Comité des Finances du 22 Novembre, 1878.

Salubrité publique.—Communication est donnée au Conseil des documents suivants:

Shanghai, le 29 Octobre, 1878.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT.—J'ai l'honneur de vous adresser ci-jointe, en traduction, une proclamation de l'autorité locale ordonnant à la population de faire disparaître dans un bref délai les dépôts de matière fécale, cause d'insalubrité que vous m'avez signalée par votre lettre du 9 Septembre dernier en me transmettant à ce sujet un rapport du médecin de la Municipalité et une pétition des habitants du quai de la Brèche.

Vous remarquerez sans doute avec satisfaction, Monsieur le Président, qu'à la suite des démarches que j'ai faites, auprès du Taotai de Shanghai, pour qu'il soit porté remède au fâcheux état de choses sur lequel on a appelé l'attention de la Municipalité, le Taotai a fait ordonner la suppression des dépôts de

matière fécale non seulement sur la partie du mur de la ville chinoise qui est située en face du quai de la Brèche, mais encore sur toute la longueur de ce mur depuis la porte du Nord jusqu'à la petite porte de l'Est, c'est-à-dire sur toute la partie Est de notre Concession, et je ne doute pas que la santé publique ne Cède à la mesure qui vient d'être prise et pour l'adoption de laquelle l'autorité locale nous a montré, je dois le dire, un véritable empressement.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma considération la plus distinguée.

(Signé) G. LEMAIRE,

Monsieur E. MILLOT,

Président du Conseil,
d'Administration Municipale de la Concession,
Française, de Shanghai.

Traduction.

Proclamation de Wang, Lieutenant Colonel de l'aile droite du Corps d'Armée du Kiang-wan, Général de Brigade en expectative et porté comme tel sur le tableau d'avancement, Général de Division honoraire, &c., &c.

Liéou, Taotai du Circuit de Sou-song-tac m'a fait parvenir une lettre ainsi conçue :

Cet été, les provinces du Nord-ouest ont été ravagées par des épidémies devant lesquelles les remèdes se sont trouvés impuissants, et qui, de l'avis de tous les médecins, ont été causées par les exhalaisons mauvaises de l'endroit : or, de toutes les mauvaises odeurs, il n'en est pas de plus forte que celle qui se dégage des dépôts de matières fécales ; entrant par les narines et pénétrant directement au cerveau, elle descend jusque dans les entrailles où elle dépose les germes d'un poison des plus funestes. C'est là ce que tout le monde disait à Pékin pendant mon dernier séjour dans cette ville.

Arrivé à Shanghai et ayant souvent à sortir de la ville pour affaires, j'ai été péniblement impressionné par la mauvaise odeur se dégageant des fosses d'aisance qui, ainsi que j'ai pu le constater moi-même, ont été établies sous les murs mêmes de la Cité, et abondent surtout dans l'espace compris entre la petite porte de l'Est et l'ancienne porte du Nord. Or, les terrains qui forment l'enceinte de la ville font partie du domaine public ; il est formellement défendu d'y bâtir. Les Autorités Supérieures de la province ont depuis longtemps donné des instructions à cet égard, et mes prédécesseurs ont chacun, de leur côté, écrit aux divers officiers qui vous ont précédé dans le commandement des troupes pour les prier de tenir la main à ce que cet ordre soit ponctuellement exécuté. Malheureusement la négligence coupable des capitaines qui ont successivement commandé la place de Shanghai a rendu jusqu'ici inefficaces toutes les mesures. Les délégués envoyés par moi sur les lieux m'ont en effet signalé la présence de 43 fosses d'aisance situées au pied des murs de la ville, dans l'espace compris entre la petite porte du Sud, la grande porte du Sud, la porte de l'Ouest, l'ancienne porte du Nord, la nouvelle porte du Nord, la petite porte de l'Est et la grande porte de l'Est. Il importe, en vérité, de démolir sans retard toutes ces fosses et de les combler, afin de faire disparaître pour les passants ce foyer permanent d'infection. Je viens en conséquence vous prier d'enjoindre aux officiers placés sous vos ordres de faire démolir et combler les dites fosses dans un délai de 15 jours.

Je vous serai très-reconnaissant de tout ce que vous voudrez bien faire à cet égard.

Telle est la lettre que j'ai reçue de S. E. Liéou.

C'est d'ailleurs en opposition formelle avec les ordres précis donnés par moi-même, au moment de mon entrée en fonctions, que des fosses d'aisance ont été construites sur les terrains situés entre les remparts et le cours d'eau qui entoure la ville ; les anciens abus ont reparu peu à peu, et les dépôts de matières fécales se sont multipliés. Il faut enfin mettre un terme à un tel état de choses.

Les remparts d'une ville doivent être respectés ; il convient donc de faire disparaître et de combler les fosses qui entourent la cité.

Au reçu de la lettre du Taotai, j'ai écrit au Capitaine Commandant la place pour lui enjoindre de veiller à ce qu'il ne soit plus intervenu à ma défense. J'adresse, en outre, la présente proclamation aux officiers et soldats proposés à la garde des portes de la ville, ainsi

qu'aux propriétaires des fosses d'aisance en question. Les fosses qui se trouvent sous les murs de la Cité devront disparaître dans le délai de 15 jours, et être entièrement comblées, sans qu'aucune autre fosse puisse, à l'avenir, être établie en cet endroit.

En cas d'infraction à ces ordres une punition sévère atteindra les coupables ; il n'y aura pour eux aucune indulgence.

Obéissez en tremblant à cette importante proclamation.

Pour traduction conforme,

L'Interprète p.i.

(Signé) J. DE BIELKE.

17 October, 1878.

Le Conseil charge le Président de faire connaître à M. le Consul qu'il apprécie hautement le concours qu'il a prêté dans cette circonstance à l'administration et le prie de vouloir bien remercier l'autorité chinoise de son empressement à donner satisfaction à la réclamation qui lui a été soumise.

Route de Sikaway.—Le Conseil charge le Président de prier M. le Consul de vouloir bien intervenir de nouveau auprès du Taotai pour obtenir son assentiment au sujet du projet de déviation de la route de Sikaway au delà du 1er pont après le Chalet.

Vidanges.—Adjudication du service relatif à l'enlèvement des vidanges et au transport des immondices des rues au nommé tsen-tuh-zo contre une redevance mensuelle de \$130.

Elections.—Près de la fin de l'exercice 1878, le Conseil étant le point de terminer son mandat, prie le Président de faire connaître à M. le Consul de France qu'il serait désireux de voir procéder aux élections municipales vers le 17 Décembre prochain.

Débts de boissons.—Le Conseil autorise le transfert d'une licence pour débit de boissons.

Approbation des rapports du médecin, des Chefs de service et de l'Inspecteur des marchés.

Amusements.

MR. AND MRS. B. FAIRCLOUGH AT THE LYCEUM.

The above-named talented artistes made their bow before a Shanghai audience, at the Lyceum, on the 4th inst., when we were pleased to see a well-filled house to welcome them ; embracing, further, the novelty of the presence of a greater number of ladies than we remember to have seen on a similar occasion for a number of years. No doubt the ability displayed by Miss Elcia May, now Mrs. Fairclough, when playing *prima donna* parts with Messrs. Vernon and Rainsford's opera company in Shanghai in the summer of 1876, caused a favourable impression to be retained regarding her ; and this, coupled with the desire to witness her performance in the somewhat less attractive walk of the drama, probably led to the numerous attendance we have just recorded. To say that the audience were not disappointed, would be but a faint utterance of the praise due to the excellence she displayed in many points, which amply compensated for an occasional weakness.

Mr. Fairclough came to Shanghai with a reputation as an actor already won, not only in London, but in various parts of the world beside, as the multitudinous criticisms of the Press in his possession testify. That he has studied in a good school is apparent, for his elocution, stage walk, and *pose* are excellent ; but exception must to a certain extent be taken to the too frequent elevation of his eyes and a certain play of the facial muscles and mouth, the repetition of which in totally different characters causes the spectator to have a slight suspicion of stagginess and mannerism. But Mr. Fairclough's difficulty must have been clearly understood by all old playgoers—to undertake the unusual task of playing four distinct characters from such works as *Richard III.*,

Romeo and Juliet, *Hamlet*, and *Taming of the Shrew*, on the same night, in the order named, tragedy and comedy alternating—and that, too, without the usual stage accessories or leading-up incidents—was a task indeed, towards which the audience required warming before the full beauty of the "counterfeit presentment," if the allusion can be permitted here, could be perceived. This feeling of bareness no doubt it was that caused the courtship scene between the *Duke of Gloucester* and *Lady Anne*, the opening selection, to receive but partial applause as compared with what followed, notwithstanding some really fine acting and declamation on the part of both performers. In the balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, which followed, the effect was much more pronounced, and also in the scenes from *Hamlet*, in which the Prince repudiates his love for *Ophelia*. Mr. Fairclough here shone to advantage, following his hero's advice to the players to the letter. His denunciation of womankind, concluding with the words, addressed to *Ophelia*, "Get thee to a nunnery," was one of his finest utterances during the evening, and so touched the audience as to elicit loud and genuine applause, which lasted for some time.

The celebrated *Mad Scene*, as it is termed, which followed, was given by Miss Elcia May with a perfection so touching as almost to excite the fancy that the hapless *Ophelia* was present, and for the first time in the evening the lady's voice was raised in song—several of the plaintive airs belonging to the part being rendered with a power and expression worthy of all praise. Loud and prolonged applause followed this genuine piece of acting.

The concluding scene was the well-known interview between *Katherine* and *Petruchio*, from the *Taming of the Shrew*—a selection requiring such different powers of impersonation to any that had preceded it as to lead to some expressions of surprise at its finding a place in the programme. But from the first it was apparent that it struck the taste of the audience, whose applause was almost continuous. The gay and rollicking *Petruchio* found a truly apt representative in Mr. Fairclough, while the bonny, but seemingly unconquerable *Kate* was equally well represented by Miss Elcia May. There was a perfect storm of applause at the close of the scene, culminating in a re-call before the curtain, to which both artistes responded and were received with repeated demonstrations of approval.

The second part of the programme was devoted to music, Miss Elcia May singing "O Mio Fernando" (*La Favorita*), so beautifully as to be loudly *encored*, to which she responded by singing another selection. Miss May's voice is much improved since she was in Shanghai in 1876. It is rounder, fuller, and more powerful, though it retains all its former sweetness and flexibility. In her next song, "Yes, we must part," from *The Daughter of the Regiment*, she almost excelled herself for purity of tone and tenderness of expression. Her concluding appearance for the evening was in the duet from *Troatore*, the "Miserere" scene, in which she was assisted by a gentleman amateur, who acquitted himself in the tenor part remarkably well. At the close, Miss May was unanimously called before the curtain, and received quite an ovation.

A well-known amateur performed a cavatina for the flute, by *Clinton*, in finished style ; and the accompanying music throughout was played by Messrs. Fentum and Iburg ; who also played selections between the several scenes and parts in their usually excellent manner.

Taken altogether, the performance was more than ordinarily successful, and we hope there will be an equally good if not a better "house" than on the night in question.

Mr. Fairclough was announced to recite "Shamus O'Brien, a tale of Galway of 1798, as related by an Irish peasant," but it being now twelve o'clock, the recitation was postponed till Monday.

The second performance took place on Monday night, before a tolerably numerous audience. An excellent programme had been provided, but the performance was marred by circumstances which a little forethought would have avoided, viz., the coldness of the theatre, caused by neglect in leaving some of the windows open—the wind finding its way in chilling gusts into the building, and not only causing some of the audience to shift their seats in the hope of finding more sheltered spots than those they had previously occupied, but actually stopping Miss May in one of her best selections, and compelling her to leave the stage to procure a paletot, which she wore nearly throughout the remainder of the evening. The coldness of the theatre was the subject of much outspoken complaint, and hopes were expressed that such discomfort would not be again permitted.

Miss May received well-merited encores for her singing of *Balfé's* beautiful solo for soprano, "The power of love," and in *Gumbert's* "Yo happy birds." She also sang *Sullivan's* "Let me dream again," and the grand scena from "Der Freischütz," besides acting the part of *Katherine* to Mr. Fairclough's *Petruccio*, in the celebrated courtship scene from "The Taming of the Shrew," which by special request was repeated, and with which the entertainment terminated.

Mr. Fairclough recited in finished style "Henry the Fifth's address to his soldiers at the siege of Harfleur," "King Lear's Curse," and "Shamus O'Brien" (a tale of Galway of 1798, as related by an Irish peasant.) The latter was so exquisitely rendered as to take the audience completely by surprise, and the utmost silence prevailed till the close, when a loud burst of applause arose, which culminated in the recall of Mr. Fairclough before the curtain.

Messrs. Fentum and Iburg again accompanied, and in the intervals played several operatic and other selections, contributing greatly to the enjoyment of the evening.

At the close of the performance, both Miss May and Mr. Fairclough were unanimously recalled, and repeatedly applauded.

No. 2 Co., S.V.C. RIFLE COMPETITION.

The monthly challenge Cup of No. 2 Co., S.V.C., was competed for on Saturday last, under favourable atmospheric conditions. The wind blew across the range from the southward, but not sufficiently strong to interfere with the shooting. There were, however, as we are informed, some complaints respecting the bad quality of the cartridges, which in some instances, it is said, interfered with the scores obtained.—The following are the scores over 30:—

	200 yds.	Total.	500 yds.	Total.	Grand Total.
Priv. Thirby	4341424-27	3353455-23	55		
" Johnston	4341424-25	3353455-23	55		
" Montrie	533433-23	2340343-19	42		
" Pardon	3232352-20	0225505-19	39		
" Stanford	3232352-21	0033443-17	37		
Sergt. Tucker	0332343-18	2422250-19	37		
Priv. Bowman	4335243-25	0002222-6	31		

AUTUMN PRIZE MEETING OF THE S.V.C.

First Day, Monday, 9th December.

This meeting commenced on Monday last, the following being the first prize competed for:—

I.—THE OFFICERS' CUP.—Presented by the Officers of the S.V.C. Open to all Sergeants and Privates of the Corps (Officers may shoot in this Competition to make up their aggregate scores for the Gold Cross, but cannot win

the Prizes.) Ranges—200 and 500 yards. Second Prize, three-fourths of the Entrance Fees.

	200 yds.	Total.	500 yds.	Total.	Grand Total.
Sergt. Tucker ..No. 2 ..	2243435-24	6354243-20	50		
Priv. Johnston ..	2 ..3542434-25	3554344-24	49		
" Thirby ..	2 ..4342434-24	5333222-25	49		
" Grisdale ..	2 ..5542544-29	2333333-19	48		
" Pardon ..	2 ..3234445-24	0235545-24	48		
" Dowdall ..M.H.L.	3335334-25	5334341-22	47		
" S. Montrie No. 2 ..	2 ..424244-25	4040335-21	46		
Sergt. Sharp	1 ..2333333-21	3300354-18	39		
" Cory	1 ..4453432-27	2252240-11	38		
Priv. Bowman ..	2 ..3333332-19	2342233-17	36		
" Vincent ..	1 ..3333343-20	4033043-13	33		
" Wooley ..M.H.L.	200252-13	0002058-5	18		
* Ties { Priv. Johnson ..	4				
" Thirby ..	3				

Second Day, Tuesday, 10th December.

The shooting was resumed this morning, in very unfavorable weather, rain falling and the atmosphere being very hazy. There were, nevertheless, some pretty good scores made, as will be seen from the subjoined return:—

II.—THE MUNICIPAL CHALLENGE CUP.—Presented by the Municipal Council of Shanghai. To be shot for at Autumn Prize Meetings, and won twice consecutively, or three times in all, before becoming the absolute property of any holder. Ranges 500 and 600 yards. Second Prize, three-fourths of the Entrance Fees. In the event of the successful competitor at any one Meeting failing at another Meeting to win the Cup absolutely, the Council will present him with an extra prize, in evidence of his having been a holder of their Challenge Cup.

	500 yds.	Total.	600 yds.	Total.	Grand Total.
Sergt. Tucker ..No. 2 ..	4432432-22	5334523-27	49		
Priv. Bowman ..	2 ..4445555-31	0434222-15	46		
" Johnston ..	2 ..4343325-26	2202543-18	44		
Sergt. Sharp	1 ..352345-22	0532333-21	43		
Priv. Thirby ..	2 ..2332333-21	3034125-21	42		
" Dowdall ..M.H.L.	2304533-17	4432244-19	36		
" Pardon ..	2 ..3232324-21	2022323-14	35		
" Wooley ..M.H.L.	334104-14	5043420-18	32		
" S. Montrie No. 2 ..	2334543-20	2004222-10	31		
" Vincent ..	1 ..0002553-15	3232444-12	29		
" Grisdale ..	2 ..6040000-0	Retired-0	0		

Third Day, Wednesday, 11th December.

The weather this morning was again dull and hazy, and the wind came in gusts, rendering it somewhat difficult to take sure aim. Notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, ten competitors put in an appearance for the Ladies' Purse, some of whom made pretty good scores, as will be seen from the appended return. Soon after the 800 yards range was commenced, rain began to fall, making it still more unpleasant shooting.

III.—THE LADIES' PURSE.—Presented by the Ladies of Shanghai. Ranges 600 and 800 yards. Second Prize, three-fourths of the Entrance Fees.

	600 yds.	Total.	800 yds.	Total.	Grand Total.
Sergt. Tucker ..No. 2 ..	2058432-19	2333355-21	40		
Priv. Johnston ..	2 ..2524303-19	2353222-19	38		
Sergt. Sharp	1 ..542346-21	3352244-14	35		
Priv. Dowdall ..M.H.L.	2003239-19	3335222-23	33		
" Thirby ..	2 ..02204-8	5033054-22	30		
" Vincent ..	1 ..1504232-18	0533000-11	29		
" S. Montrie ..	2 ..152222-11	004450-13	24		
" Bowman ..	2 ..3402050-17	0300000-3	20		
" Wooley ..M.H.L.	4000003-7	25000-0	7		
" Pardon ..	2 ..2003003-8	Retired-0	8		

Fourth Day, Thursday, 12th December.

The weather this morning was again hazy, and rain fell slightly. The individual scores made, however, were not bad, as the subjoined return shows:—

IV.—THE COMPANY'S MATCH.—Open to Teams of Eight men from each Company of the S.V.C. Each Team will first fire man by man at 200, 500 and 600 yards; then each Team will fire 5 Volleys at 400 yards, kneeling in two ranks, and by word of command. The result of the Match to be determined by the aggregate score.—Entrance Fees, \$24 per Team.

The Gold Cross of the Meeting, value one-fourth of the general entrance fees, will be gained by the highest total scorer in Competitions Nos. 1 to 3 and the individual firing in Competition No. 4.

Volunteers who are not members of a Company Team may shoot with these Teams in the individual firing to make up their total scores.

	200 yds.	Total.	500 yds.	Total.	600 yds.	Total.	Grand Total.
Priv. Johnston ..	5554325-29	3534334-25	5520330-18	72			
Sergt. Tucker ..	3423335-23	6435544-39	534033-15	63			
Priv. S. Montrie ..	2333334-20	263532-17	343535-27	64			
" Vincent ..	233232-15	535432-14	44354-20	59			
" Dowdall ..	3332334-21	234534-24	303232-14	43			
" Wooley ..	5340524-23	3020003-8	0402204-13	43			

Fifth Day, Friday, 13th December.

The weather this morning was more unfavourable than on any previous day, rain falling unceasingly and the wind blowing in strong gusts nearly across the range, interfering greatly with the shooting. Only five competitors put in an appearance at seven a.m., and obtained the subjoined scores.

V.—THE CONSOLATION PRIZES.—A Subscription of \$3 from each Winner of a First Prize, and \$2 from each Winner of a Second Prize, added to three-fourths of the Entrance Fees. Two-thirds of the whole to be taken by the highest score; one-third by the second. Open to all Members of the Corps who have won no Prize at this Meeting. Ranges—200 and 500 yards.

	200 yds.	Total.	500 yds.	Total.	Grand Total.
Priv. Dowdall	5335533-27	3333355-22	49		
" Vincent ..	4245242-23	3322333-19	42		
" Thirby ..	3122222-17	3234323-20	37		
" S. Montrie ..	4335432-26	4120200-8	34		
" Wooley ..	2322223-13	0020003-4	17		

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

The second hunt of the season was run on Saturday. The Hongkew country was selected, the meet being at a spot near the Rifle Butts, where at the time appointed nearly fifty horsemen put in an appearance, besides a large company of spectators all anxious, to make the most of the last Saturday half-holiday before the change of mail-day. In addition to the hunt, there was another species of sport ready to be commenced as soon as the cavalcade had swept away out of danger from the "hissing lead"—and that was the monthly challenge cup competition of No. 2 Co., S.V.C., affording another illustration of the value set upon the Saturday half-holiday in Shanghai.

At the word to go, the troop streamed away together, but soon lengthened to a line, presenting an interesting sight as they wound in and out among the grave-mounds. The Hongkew country has been described previously, so that it is needless to say more than that on this occasion the "going" was rather heavy owing to the depth of the furrows and the fact of there being between many of them a sort of drain or gutter, in some instances containing water—three of these being more than a pony could clear in his stride, and two being well within it, caused considerable "pitching and tossing" until the level country was again reached. The finish was across what would be a formidable water jump had the tide been high, but as it was low water the ponies had nothing for it but to scramble through in the best manner possible. A large number of spectators were here assembled, and were gratified with one of the most interesting wins, from a sportsman's view, ever seen. Coming to the straight 200 yards or so from home, Mr. Walker, on *Arab*, was leading, but was pressed by Mr. Fearo on *Spalpeen*. At the final jump, *Arab* led, but was collared on landing, and *Spalpeen* having a spoonful more wind left, went in a winner by the barest half-neck—a result that was greeted by the spectators with much cheering, which was as much intended for the second pony as the winner.

Miscellaneous.

FIRE IN HONGKEW.

Shortly after twelve o'clock on 5th inst., the alarm of fire in Hongkew was rung from the different stations. The various brigades promptly obeyed the call, and it being

an hour when most people are leaving their business for tiffin, a large number of firemen and non-working foreigners were soon on the scene; and it was at once apparent that the subjugation of the flames was no easy task to accomplish. The two native shops at the junction of the Woosung Road and Mungo Alley, on the West side of the Woosung Road and abutting on the thick fire-wall which saved them from being consumed by the fire which occurred on the same road during last summer were gutted when the engines arrived, and the flames had spread to the shops on the other side of Mungo Alley, as well as to the houses in course of erection on the opposite side of the Woosung Road, which are being built to replace those burnt on the occasion just referred to. The Hongkew engine took up a position in Mungo Alley, and soon arrested the progress of the flames in that direction, while the other engines, with the exception of No. 4, "Deluge," stationed themselves so as to obtain water from the Soochow Creek, and did good service in extinguishing the flames in the Woosung Road. No. 4 engine was on the opposite side of the fire in the same road. At first some difficulty was experienced by this engine in obtaining water, owing to some new buildings having been erected round a pond which on previous occasions had been availed of, and a supply was eventually obtained through one thousand feet of hose from another pond behind the Hospital. So vigorous and plentiful was the application of water when the engines once got to work, that the flames almost immediately succumbed, and by two o'clock they were well-nigh completely extinguished. Soon afterwards the engines left, with the exception of No. 4, which remained during the greater part of the afternoon playing on the smouldering ruins. The damage done is not so extensive as the appearance of the flames seemed to indicate. But fifteen shops and houses on the West side of the Woosung Road are burnt to the ground, and ten of the new houses on the opposite side are so badly damaged in the upper story that they will require to be rebuilt. One of the shops, which is now a heap of ruins, was a pawnbroker's, and it is said very few of the valuables it contained were saved.

So far as we could learn, the fire broke out in the bamboo-ware shop at the corner of the Mungo Alley and Woosung Road, through the ignition of some of the wares while the midday meal was being cooked.

PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

The Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund have resolved to promote an expedition to the Sea of Galilee, and in appealing to the public for support have issued the following circular, which contains much valuable information:—After the surveyor, the archaeologist; after the theodolite, the spade. The great Survey of Palestine, west of the Jordan, having been brought to a successful conclusion, the Committee are enabled to turn their attention to that examination of certain special districts which was contemplated in the original prospectus of the Society, and has been always kept in view. One great object of the Survey was to furnish that solid geographical knowledge without which the Historian and Commentator, as well as the Geologist and Mineralogist, work in the dark. That object is now attained. The ground has been cleared, the opportunity for a close examination gained. We have a real grasp of those districts in the Holy Land which are connected with the life and labour of Our Lord. The Survey is one means to the great end of Biblical illustration. For six years we have been engaged in work on the surface; we now propose to work beneath it. Foremost amongst those special districts is the Sea of Galilee. A special examination of these shores will produce results of the greatest

value. The work might be confined to a limited period; its cost might fall within a stated sum; and it would furnish materials for a monograph to be published without delay. The main interest, however, gathers round the three towns of Capernaum, Chorazin, and Bethsaida. The controversy with regard to the sites of the three Gospel cities is still open. Capernaum has been variously placed at the Round Fountain, at the mounds of Minyeh, and at Tel Hum. The advocates of the first-named site, the Round Fountain, maintain that it is the Capharnaum of Josephus, and point to the fact that the *coracius* is still found in it; on the other hand, its opponents argue that there are no ruins nearer the fountain than Abu Shushieh, which is on the hills some distance off; that no tradition has ever been connected with it; that the fountain does not now, and never could have irrigated any considerable portion of Gennesareth; and that the fountain of Ain et Tabigh, once carried at a high level by a remarkable piece of engineering into the Plain of Gennesareth, is more likely to be the fountain mentioned by Josephus. In favour of the mounds of Minyeh, it is urged that the old Roman road which crossed the Jordan at Jisr Benät Yaküb left the shores of the lake at this point; that the name of Capernaum might very well be taken from the Tabigh fountain, the waters of which were carried along the face of the hill above the mounds by a rock-hewn conduit; that the mounds in themselves are evidence of the former existence of a place of some size; and that Talmudic doctors (see Conder's "Tent Work in Palestine," vol. ii., p. 184) speak of Capernaum as the city of Minyeh. Against the site, it is agreed that no traces have been found of old buildings, or of any tombs of a distinctively Jewish character; and that in the excavations of 1866 nothing but modern masonry and pottery was found at the lowest depth (12 feet) reached; while the earlier Christian traditions favour Tel Hum rather than Minyeh. It is proposed to make an exact and exhaustive examination of the Lake District in the following respects:—

- 1.—Excavations will be carried out at Minyeh, Tel Hum, Kerazeh, and the mounds at the mouth of the Jordan. Minor excavations, according to the discretion of the officer in command, will be made at Ain et Tabigh, Tel Oreimah, the tombs to the north, the mounds of Gennesareth, Abu Shushieh, Mejdal, Ain el Fuliyeh, Irbid, Tiberias, Kerak, Umm Keis, Kalat et Husn, the ruins at Khersa, and tombs near it, Et Tell, the ruins in the Batiheh, and such other mounds and remains as are found on the borders of the lake.

- 2.—The Eastern shores will be completely surveyed and mapped, and the ruins examined.

- 3.—The remarkable synagogue of Tel Hum, which, if that place be Capernaum, is the synagogue in which our Lord taught (John, vi. 59), will be cleared to the foundations; every remaining stone, and every fragment of its broken columns and architecture collected, and care will be taken to prevent further destruction.

- 4.—Whatever additions can be made to the already large store of information in the hands of the Committee as to nomenclature, legends, and traditions will be collected. The geology of the district will be thoroughly examined, especially with reference to the formation of the Jordan valley, and former volcanic disturbances; notes will be taken of the meteorology, the botany, and zoology, of the district; casts will be taken of inscriptions; localities will be photographed; plans will be laid down on a conveniently large scale.

- 5.—As regards the time, the party should be in the field by the 1st of December, and work continuously till the end of March, after which field work becomes impossible on account of the growth of thistles and the thick vegetation. The expedition should

consist, if possible, of two officers of Royal Engineers, an Arabic scholar, a geologist and naturalist, and two non-commissioned officers of Royal Engineers. The whole expense of the expedition should not exceed £2,500. For this comparatively small sum a detailed and scientific examination may be made, and questions which have disturbed the Christian world for centuries may be finally set at rest.

SHARP SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE IN HONGKONG.

(China Mail.)

Most of our residents, especially those who are light sleepers, were made aware of the fact that a double shock of earthquake was experienced here shortly after three o'clock this morning (23rd ult.) These freaks of nature are not so common in this part of the world as to render them recognised acquaintances, but fortunately they are of so comparatively mild a character that very little fear of absolute danger need accompany them. The last distinct shock felt in this Colony occurred shortly after 9 a.m. on the 23rd of June, 1874; but the tremulous visitor of this morning was apparently the most severe shock ever experienced in Hongkong. In 1874, we find that all the conventional accompaniments of a *bona fide* earthquake were present. The *China Mail* of 23rd June, 1874, says:—"At about half-past one o'clock this morning, the sky became overcast and in a very short time a heavy fall of rain began, which continued with but slight intermissions, until about 6 o'clock, when a short lull occurred. At about 6.30, it began to rain again, and those who were awake and stirring noticed that suddenly the entire heavens were illuminated by a bright and vivid flash of lightning. The flash was unaccompanied by thunder, but was followed by as severe a fall of rain as has been experienced for some time. Rain ceased at 8, and a cool day was looked for, when, at exactly 20 minutes before 9 o'clock, a slight shock of earthquake of about one-half a second's duration, followed within a couple of seconds by a second shock, stronger and of nearly three and a quarter seconds duration, shook Victoria and suburbs, in fact the entire island." The same cannot be said on this occasion, partly on account of the fact that we are now enjoying the finest November weather, and partly because nearly all respectable people were at the early hour named this morning fully occupied in sleeping the sleep of the just. One or two experiences related to us, however, will serve to show the extent of this natural phenomenon, the counterpart of which will doubtless prove to be some terrible disaster in Manila or Formosa. The shocks seem to have been felt more severely on the lower levels than in the houses up the Hill; and while those in the upper terraces sallied forth after breakfast for an explanation of the strange noises and unusual commotions, residents in the lower roads seem to have had little difficulty in coming to the conclusion that they were "doing" an earthquake experience of a very marked kind. In one case the effect up the Hill was simply to disturb the occupants, and by the violent shaking of a door, puzzle the inmates. In another a pet bird was discovered fluttering about in a very perturbed state, and thieves or the perambulations of the hob-nailed "night watch" were credited with the unusual disturbance. On the lower levels, several residents were rudely shaken out of their slumbers by the first shock, which seems to have been "short, sharp, and decisive" as a preparation for the next. Then the character of the second sensation—that of oscillation, gentle and undulating, as contrasted with the first shock—is universally described as very marked, in its emphatic effect upon the laws of gravitation. One saw his walls actually sway to and fro, and wondered which door he could most readily escape

from; another fancied that the stability of the world had come to an end with the present administration in Hongkong; and yet another, of a more practical turn of mind, cast his eyes on the ceiling and speculated which particular piece was to give way first before the grand crash came. As will be readily understood, however, the whole tremulation did not last many seconds; and Mother Earth had recovered her accustomed steadiness ere any of the above ideas had taken definite form. Fortunately a gentleman of our acquaintance happened to be awake reading when the earthquake occurred, and he has given us what may be termed a circumstantial account under very favourable conditions. He was sitting reading, when he sustained a sharp shock, which had no sooner conveyed to his mind the impression that it was subterranean, than the second shock swayed him backwards and forwards in his chair as if he had been at sea. There were four or five oscillations during the second shock, and they proceeded from N.E. to S.W. His lamp swung as if it had been on board ship, and the rings of his bed-curtains tinkled as if a strong wind were blowing upon them. This occurred as nearly as possible at 3.13 a.m., and, with minor variations in detail, it pretty nearly describes the sensation which must have been experienced on all the lower levels of the town.

We have not heard any description of the effect, if any, which was caused on the water in the Harbour; but while we write the following has arrived from a trustworthy and accurate correspondent in Canton:—"Just a line. We have had a shock of earthquake here this morning (Saturday). At about 3.15 a.m., my wife awakened me suddenly, and I became conscious of a swinging movement about my bed which continued for more than a minute. It seems to have awakened my wife, so that how long the shock continued I am unable to say. I might mention that the oscillations (for the sensation was more of that character than a shock) were in the direction of East and West. My observations have been verified by Dr. J. Chalmers and Mr. T. Sampson, and they may be worth a note in the *China Mail*, as perhaps something similar may have occurred in Hongkong. Perhaps this will form material for a note to-day." So it is noted accordingly, and it is noteworthy that, at almost exactly the same time as in Hongkong, the shock was felt in Canton, though the duration of the oscillations may be somewhat overstated.

THE MURDER IN HONGKONG.—TRIAL OF THE ACCUSED.

At the Supreme Court Criminal Sessions, Hongkong, on the 3rd inst., Charles Newman, a watchman unemployed, was indicted for the wilful murder of one Gutierrez, a Portuguese, at a house No. 153, Queen's Road East, on the night of the 8th August last. The Hon. G. Philippo, Attorney General, prosecuted, and the Hon. Mr. Hayllar, instructed by Mr. Dennys, appeared to watch the case on behalf of the prisoner. The following gentlemen composed the special jury:—Messrs. H. C. Erdmann, W. Reiners, D. Gillies, F. A. Grobrien, H. Dickie, L. Beyer, and P. A. da Costa.

The facts of the case have been so frequently alluded to in these columns that repetition would be a waste of space. Suffice it, therefore, to say that on the night named, the accused, who had been in company with the murdered man and a woman named Louisa Lockhardt, whom he (accused) was living with, unexpectedly returned home, and found the two in the house. He went into a back kitchen and procuring a tomahawk, or axe, commenced a murderous onslaught on the unhappy pair, killing the man on the spot, and so severely injuring the woman that her life was for a long while despaired of.

It should be mentioned that Newman and Lockhardt had visited Shanghai only a short time before; and while in this Settlement, Newman threatened the lives of several people with revolver and knife, and was in consequence sent back to Hongkong with the woman, arriving there only the day before he committed the murder.

Evidence of the above facts having been given,

The Jury retired for two or three minutes, and on returning into Court, the foreman, in reply to the formal enquiry of the Registrar, said they found the prisoner guilty of wilful murder.

Prisoner, on being asked if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him, said that when he left Hongkong for Shanghai, he did so with the intention of occupying a vacancy there. When, however, he got there the disgrace that he had got into in Hongkong was put to him. On applying to Mr. Johnson for a few lines of recommendation he refused to give them to him; he then applied to Captain Bolton, and he would not say anything for him. He then got into an excited state of mind, and did not know what he was doing. They then sent him down here to Hongkong on board a steamer, with the woman Lockhardt, and when he arrived here he was perfectly beside himself. It was not his intention to kill Gutierrez; he did not do it wilfully.

His Lordship—Charles Newman, you have been found guilty of wilful murder, and no one, I think, who has heard this evidence can doubt but that perhaps when you went to the house on the night in question you were not aware that Gutierrez was there. But at the sight of him, your jealousy was aroused, and, giving way to your violent passion, you deliberately took that axe, and inflicted blows upon him which caused his death. That was wilful murder. Now I cannot forget that not long ago you received a lesson in this Colony of the absolute necessity of controlling the outbursts of your passion. That lesson has unfortunately been disregarded, and now your passion has again brought you to this stage. You sent that unfortunate man to a very early death, and the sentence of the law is that your life must be given as a warning to other people that they must not give way to anger, and passion, and savage violence. The sentence of the Court is that you be taken hence to the place from where you came, and thence to the place of execution; that there you be hanged by the neck until you be dead, and that your body be buried in such place as the Governor may direct.

Prisoner—I have one request to make.

His Lordship—You have one request to make? What is it?

Prisoner—That when I am dead, my body may be sent to San Francisco and buried in the Blue Mountain Cemetery.

His Lordship said that rested entirely with the Governor, but the prisoner's request should be conveyed to His Excellency.

Newman was then removed. He made his remarks and request after the verdict was delivered in a firm and natural tone of voice, and betrayed very little agitation.

LI YEUNG CHOI'S INVASION OF ANNAM.

(*China Mail*.)

It is reported, we believe with truth, that enquiries are being instituted regarding the movements of General Li Yeung Choi. The General has taken possession of two provinces of Tonquin, viz., Puk Ning and Tai Yuen. These places have been placed under strict martial law, and perfect order is being maintained. The inhabitants have been asked to change their costume and wear a queue, and those districts in which the inhabitants comply are to be vacated by the troops. The General has also used his influence to unite the black and yellow flag rebels under one banner, but it is as yet doubtful whether or not

they will join Li's army. We have also heard a story to the effect that, before the General took up arms, he sent two emissaries to the King of Annam, and by some means these men found favour with the king and were placed in charge of the province of Suhi Kwang, the chief city of which is Tsing Ngam. General Li found means to acquaint these men of his approach, and they caused the gates of the city to be thrown open, and the General's army was thus enabled to take possession unopposed. Several hundreds of the Annamites are said to have been slain, but now several thousands have joined the ranks of Li's army. The King of Annam directed his Chief General (Wong Tek Cheung) to march against the invaders, which he did with an army of over 10,000. A battle was fought which lasted three days (from the 5th to the 8th ultimo), in which the Annamites were defeated and about one thousand prisoners taken. These men were allowed to disperse after their heads had been shaved, but their officers were not so fortunate, as eight-tenths of them were executed, having refused to swear allegiance to Li. The French are said to have remained inactive, satisfying themselves by keeping order at the seaports. The *Mail* gives this information for what it is worth.

THE UNITED STATES.

Washington, 20th Oct.

A telegram to the *Times*, of the above date, says the order issued by Mr. Sherman, the Secretary of the Treasury, for the purchase of silver bullion, is to the effect that 400,000oz. shall be bought weekly, and not 45,000oz., as was previously announced.

The Washington correspondent of the same paper, telegraphed, on the 25th Oct., news to the effect that President Hayes and Secretary Sherman have addressed an immense assemblage at a State fair held at Cumberland (Maryland). The President, who was introduced by Governor Carroll, delivered a speech, in which he said there was every indication of reviving prosperity, which would be confirmed by honest money for honest labour. Mr. Sherman, reviewing the sources of national prosperity, stated that the balance of trade was this year in favour of the United States to the extent of \$289,000,000, and pointed out also the increase of production, the diversity of American manufacture, the decrease of expenditure, the advancing credit of the country, and the success of the Four per Cent. Bonds, \$158,000,000 of which had been sold. Mr. Sherman said that the paper money now at par must be kept so, but observed that the introduction of the silver dollar had complicated the resumption of specie payments. He hoped that Congress would limit its issue or increase its intrinsic value, in order to keep it equal to gold. The Treasury, continued Mr. Sherman, now held \$137,000,000 in gold and silver to redeem any notes presented for payment. Gold and silver were coming from Europe and the western mines, which would produce \$100,000,000 annually, and Mr. Sherman declared that unless the people preferred irredeemable money and unless they forced an excessive issue of less valuable silver, which would drive gold out of circulation, the United States would have redeemable money at par with coin and with gold.

Correspondence.

A WORD IN SEASON.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—I have been expecting to see the *Courier's* correspondent, "Hans von Splitter-hyshauser," replied to by some of the able and ready pens of Shanghai; but as no one as yet has seemed to think it worth

while to question his statements, I am tempted to make a few remarks which his not very logical letter has given rise to. It is of course unnecessary to point out that the writer is, unmistakably, himself a member of "The Foreign Imperial Service of the Chinese Customs," whose cause he espouses. So much is patent to every one who has read the letter; but I am certainly surprised to hear it assumed as a fact that the relations between the Chinese officials and their employes are of the nature he says they are; and I am at a loss to see what argument can be based on such a plea to support the selection of their own servants to serve as a channel of communication between independent foreigners and the Chinese authorities. The true reason for this writer's assumption of the especial fitness of American Collectors of Customs to occupy important posts as Chairmen of public meetings, Committees representing the whole foreign community of China, as in the case referred to, viz., the Famine Relief Fund, and so on, is very evident. It is that it is becoming a manifest fact, attended in some instances with very mischievous consequences, that the foreign members of the Chinese Customs daily show greater eagerness to interfere in any and everything which does not belong to their own business in life, viz., the collection of Custom House dues; hoping, it is said, thereby little by little to attain to that quasi-diplomatic position for which the soul of the foreign Custom House clerk longeth.

If, instead of thus continually straining after and interfering in matters in which they have little concern, and no influence for good as regards our relations with China, and which it is the general opinion can be more fitly discharged by others, the foreign Custom House officers would give their undivided attention to the by no means unimportant duties they are so well paid to discharge, they would become at once more useful, popular, and respected members of the various foreign communities residing at the Chinese Treaty Ports.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

NE SUTOR ULTRA CREPIDAM.

Hankow, 1st Dec.

THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICES.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—We were surprised to learn from the leader in your columns of 29th November, many new and original facts and fancies respecting the Diplomatic Services in China. It is not my purpose to break a lance with the learned writer as regards his opinion of Sir Thomas Wade's ability and character; although I may recall to your recollection that Lords Derby, Beaconsfield and Salisbury, men fully as competent as the writer of the article to form an opinion as to the capacity of the Minister, have alike frequently given public expression to their high appreciation of his diplomatic zeal and powers. I merely wish to point out that the writer has fallen into a slight error (*qu. clerical*) when he tells us in a contemptuous, and I might add, flippant style, "A promoted Consul exaggerates the 'business' of a Diplomat, and as a rule blunders when in the presence of carefully trained professionals," &c., &c. It is indeed strange that so well informed a quidnunc should not be aware that ever since 1861, when our representatives first went to Peking, all, or nearly all, the Foreign Ministers have been "promoted Consuls," and that at the present time the representatives of Russia, France, Germany, Austria, and America have each and all had the misfortune to belong to the Consular service of their respective countries; and that, therefore, his remark that Sir Thomas Wade has been unable to cope with his colleagues because they were "carefully trained professionals"

is simple nonsense, as well as being in very bad taste, reflecting, as it is evidently intended to do, on the whole of the Consular Services of China.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

Hankow, 5th Dec.

Law Reports.

H.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 6th Dec.

Before G. FRENCH, Esq., Chief Judge.

CHIN QUAI v. J. BRADFELD.

Mr. DRUMMOND appeared for the plaintiff. Mr. WAINWRIGHT appeared for the defendant.

Plaintiff is a Chinese subject, and he sought to recover from the defendant the sum of \$677.68 cents. for work done and articles supplied.

It appeared from the petition and an annexed statement of particulars that plaintiff undertook to do certain work for the defendant, in connection with the raising of two blocks of land on the Bubbling Well Road, after which he laid a grass lawn, erected a bamboo fence, made two or three ornamental mounds, and obtained and planted numerous trees on the land. At different times he had received money on account, but defendant refused to pay the balance, namely \$677.68 cents, hence the present action was instituted.

Defendant, in his answer, denied the correctness of the particulars of the claim filed by the plaintiff, and alleged that he (plaintiff) had not performed the work or supplied all the things for which he had charged. Some of the things were not according to contract and had been rejected by the defendant, who asserted that as regards the quantity of the goods supplied and the prices charged they were alike excessive, and that for certain of the materials and labour specified in the bill of particulars he was not liable to pay. Further, defendant alleged that credit should be given him in the particulars for the sum of \$5 bargain money, and for the sum of \$75, which plaintiff agreed to pay him for mud he had supplied. Defendant also alleged that the plaintiff had excavated a certain ditch so negligently and unskillfully that the property of an adjoining owner had been damaged to the extent of \$68.50 (the equivalent of Tls. 50), which he had been advised and believed that he would have to pay. One item of the plaintiff's claim was \$82, the price of a piece of land he had bought to use the mud thereon for raising the defendant's land, and which, after the removal of the mud, was turned into an ornamental pond and enclosed in the defendant's ground. Defendant was willing to pay the \$82 as soon as the land was properly marked out and a transfer thereof delivered to him, and to abide this being done he paid the amount into Court, as also the sum of \$50, which two sums he considered were enough to satisfy the plaintiff's claim in full.

His LORDSHIP, at the outset of the hearing, said that, judging from the particulars of the plaintiff's claim, which contained 20 items, each one of which was a separate cause of action, he thought that a person with practical knowledge as to the raising of land, the making of mounds, and the price of trees and bamboo fencing, would be more likely to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion than he, but he was ready and willing to hear the case, and only threw out this as a suggestion to the parties.

Mr. DRUMMOND was willing to leave the matter to an arbitrator.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said whoever tried the case it would have to be decided by evidence, and he failed to see that any benefit would accrue either as regarded saving time or expense by its being heard by an arbitrator.

Mr. DRUMMOND was of the same opinion, and the case was proceeded with.

Mr. DRUMMOND, in opening, confined himself to the legality of the set-off claimed by the defendant, maintaining that it could not be allowed, and, pointing out that it was the subject for a cross-action, he doubted whether

his Lordship had jurisdiction to entertain it, plaintiff being a Chinese subject.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he was willing to admit ten of the items of the plaintiff's particulars of claim, amounting altogether to \$182.67. He entered into the accounts between the parties, and explained that he should show that there was a balance in favour of the defendant.

Plaintiff was then called and examined in detail as to the ten remaining items left in the claim. He stated that he had on several occasions asked the defendant for payment, who had put him off, and on the last occasion when he asked him, defendant kicked him and struck him with his fist, and also horse-whipped another Chinaman who had supplied the material for the bamboo fence, and who was pressing him (plaintiff) for payment.

At five o'clock in the afternoon the case was adjourned until eleven next morning.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT pointed out that the plaintiff had only paid into Court \$50 as the security for costs, and as the costs must have already exceeded that amount he applied under the 263rd Rule for the plaintiff to give additional security to cover the costs of further proceedings.

Mr. DRUMMOND opposed the application, explaining that the plaintiff was a poor man, and that it was with great difficulty he managed to borrow the \$50 to deposit when he instituted the proceedings, and that if he was compelled to give additional security it would certainly "hang up" the case for several days if it did not take it out of the Court altogether. Moreover, he said the \$50 were deposited as security after reference to Mr. Mowat.

His LORDSHIP, refused the application, saying that the plaintiff had had ample opportunity to apply for security for costs. That he had neglected and he thought the application came too late, after the hearing of the cause had made some progress.

7th Dec.

The hearing of this case was resumed to-day.

Two head coolie men were examined to prove that the work mentioned in the particulars had been duly executed, and that when it was finished defendant expressed himself well satisfied. A bamboo dealer deposed to finding material and labour for the erection of the bamboo fence, and confirmed the head coolie men as to the ground being raised to a height marked out in the presence of the defendant. A tree dealer living at Pootung, deposed to supplying the trees named in the particulars, and said that generally they were better than the musters shown to the defendant. The tepao proved that plaintiff purchased a piece of land adjoining the defendant's at a cost of \$124, and said that when all the purchase money was paid there would be no difficulty in obtaining a proper transfer.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT, in opening the defendant's case, did not think it necessary to go into the facts at any length, which were all set forth in the answer, and said he should merely reply to the points of law which had been raised by Mr. Drummond.

His LORDSHIP said that with regard to the question of the set-off, he believed in the contention that a foreigner who used the Court for redress stood on the same footing as a British subject, when a defence of set-off was raised.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT thanked his Lordship for this expression of his views on a matter that had hitherto been in doubt, and proceeded to argue that under the Judicature Act of 1875, defendant was entitled to set off his claim for damages caused by the negligent and unskillful excavation of one of the ditches, although the amount of the damage done was only estimated in the answer and had to be ascertained by the Court. He next argued that Mr. Drummond's contention on the subject of tender was untenable, and pointed out that the authorities he had cited were inapplicable. He then called his witnesses.

Mr. CORRY, Architect, proved that the land belonging to the defendant, which had been raised by the plaintiff, was not on a level with the Bubbling Well Road; and two Chinese witnesses deposed as to the measurements of the land that had been raised and other similar details.

The case lasted the whole day, and shortly before five o'clock in the evening, it was adjourned until this morning.

9th Dec.

The hearing of this case was resumed to-day.

Mr. BRADFELD, the defendant, was examined at great length as to the work done on his property. He produced a contract in pidgin English, which stated that the land was to be raised to "all same high road" at the rate of \$25 per mow. The land, he said, had never been raised to a level with the crown of the road. He was examined on each item in the particulars, and his evidence generally conflicted with that given by the plaintiff. He said he did not receive any account from the plaintiff to show what he owed him until he received a letter from Mr. Drummond, and then he thought it was no good trying to come to a settlement.

Plaintiff's mafuo, who was the next witness, proved that the ground was only raised one foot five inches in two places and one foot eight inches in another, and in no place was it on a level with the middle of the road. He said plaintiff gave him his account in Chinese, which he handed to his master the same day and interpreted the various items to him. This was on the 29th September.

Mr. DRUMMOND said his letter was dated about the second or third week in October.

PLAINTIFF was recalled and explained that the mafuo was mistaken as to the day he gave him the plaintiff's account—it was, as he said before, the same date that he received the account from Mr. Drummond.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT, in summing up on behalf of his client, maintained that the plaintiff contracted to raise the land to the level of the crown of the Bubbling Well Road, at the rate of \$25 per mow, which defendant was willing to pay. But plaintiff had failed to raise the land according to the contract, as, according to the evidence of Mr. Cory, it was still five inches below the level of the road; therefore the charges for coolie hire in the particulars were part of the contract and should not be saddled on the defendant. Plaintiff had said there were 528 coolies employed, whereas the mafuo, who had instructions to count them daily, said there were only 226; and this, he urged, was a specimen of the plaintiff's overcharges throughout the whole affair. He analysed each item in the particulars, pointing out that if the plaintiff had fulfilled his contract there would have been no necessity for the greater part of the charges therein enumerated, and, in conclusion, said that he relied on the argument he put forth in his opening address to support the set off he had raised for the damage done to the property of the adjoining owner.

Mr. DRUMMOND, on behalf of the plaintiff, urged that the contention made by Mr. Wainwright in his opening address as to the set off did not alter his position in the least, inasmuch as under the Judicature Act of 1875 a set-off had to be so stated in the answer that it could stand as a counter-claim, and in this instance the set off was not so pleaded. He and his learned friend Mr. Wainwright agreed that no tender was made, and the reasons that had been urged as an excuse for not tendering were, he maintained, entirely beside the question. He also contended that the \$82, mentioned in the answer as a payment into Court, could not be regarded in that light when the conditions under which it was paid in were considered; and, therefore, the only amount paid into Court was the sum of \$50 named in the answer. He reviewed the evidence at some length, maintaining that the plaintiff had fulfilled his contract so far as he understood it, namely that he was to raise the land to the level of the margin of the Bubbling Well Road, and not up to the crown of the road. In his opinion the evidence of the defendant's mafuo should be eliminated from the case, as he was evidently a witness who could not be relied upon, and there was no other evidence to show that the plaintiff's accounts, as to the material supplied and coolie hire, were not perfectly true and accurate. Plaintiff, he said, was a poor man who had been unjustly treated by the defendant; he had been kept without his money for many months, and as a last resource he had been compelled to come to the Court. The money plaintiff hoped to obtain did not belong to him but to others who had assisted him in the work and supplied him with material, and

he (Mr. Drummond) characterised the case as one of extreme hardship.

His Lordship reserved his decision.

10th Dec.

STURROCK, Appellant v. BEATO, Respondent.

Mr. ROBINSON was for the appellant, and Mr. RENNIE for the respondent.

Judgment.

This was an appeal from the decision of Her Majesty's Court at Kanagawa.

The suit was instituted against the master of the s.s. *Merionethshire* upon a bill of lading for the non-delivery to the plaintiff at Yokohama of three cases of collodion, shipped on board that vessel at the port of London in May last.

The Court below gave judgment for the plaintiff, for the sum of 450 dollars with costs.

The bill of lading, which was an Eastern Trade bill of lading, outwards No. 1, via Suez Canal, was, as to the parts of it material to the present suit, as follows:—"Shipped in good order and condition by Short, Short and Co., on board the s.s. *Merionethshire*, . . . bound for Yokohama, . . . seventy-one cases of merchandise, including three cases collodion, on deck at shipper's risk, being marked and numbered as per margin; and to be delivered, subject to the exceptions and conditions hereinafter mentioned in the like order and condition from the ship's tackle (where the ship's responsibility shall cease), at the aforesaid port of Yokohama, or as near thereto as she may safely get, unto order, or to his or their assigns. Freight for the said goods and prime (if any) to be paid, ship lost or not lost, average as accustomed." The following were among the exceptions above referred to, "jettison . . . , and all and every the dangers and accidents of the seas, rivers and canals, and of navigation of whatever nature or kind. The ship is not liable for . . . leakage, breakage" In the margin of the bill of lading, "collodion on deck" was written opposite to the above three cases. The plaintiff claimed 450 dollars as the value of the three cases of collodion which were thrown overboard in the manner subsequently mentioned. It was contended on behalf of the appellant, the defendant in the Court below, that the judgment appealed from was wrong, first, because the words in the bill of lading "on deck at shipper's risk," coupled with the exceptions of "jettison" and "dangers and accidents of the seas," relieved the master from all liability in respect of the loss complained of other than liability for such loss as might have occurred from wilful negligence on his part, or on the part of his servants; and 2ndly, in holding, upon the evidence, that the ship was unseaworthy at all, or that the defendant had by himself, or his servants, been guilty of negligence. On the part of the respondent, the contention was that the evidence in the Court below showed negligence on the part of the master; and that, if there had been negligence on his part, it could only be protected by express stipulation and not by implication; and that to say that this bill of lading protected the master from all liability in respect of negligence would be to add another term to that document. Now the defendant is a carrier for hire; and, where an action is brought against a person in that character, it is sufficient *prima facie* evidence of a loss by negligence to show that the goods never reached the consignee. (Hawkes v. Smith, Carr and Marsh, 72, Rolfe B.) The burden, therefore, is on the master to show that he was not guilty of negligence; and in the case of a carrier for hire "gross negligence,"—and therefore "wilful negligence,"—because if there be wilful negligence there must be gross negligence,—includes the want of that reasonable care and skill which might be reasonably expected from him; the rule in such a case being that the failure to exercise reasonable care and skill is "gross negligence." What is reasonable, varies in the case of a gratuitous bailee and that of a bailee for hire. From the former is reasonably expected such care and diligence as persons ordinarily use in their own affairs, and such skill as he has. From the latter is reasonably expected care and diligence such as are exercised in the ordinary and proper course of similar business, and the skill usual and requisite in the business for which he receives payment. (Beal v. South Devon

Railway Company, Hurl. and Colman, 337.) The master of a ship has a duty to perform in regard to all cargo brought on board, to see that it is properly and securely stowed. (Maude and Pollock's Shipping Law, p. 97, 3rd ed.) The plaintiff's loss is unquestioned. The Court, then, in determining whether the master is, or is not liable to make it good, must consider whether the loss arose from any of those causes which, either according to the general rules of law, or the particular contract between the parties, afford an excuse for the non-performance of the contract, which, in the case now before the Court, was the non-delivery of the three cases of collodion (Pritchard's Adm. Dig., p. 84, par. 26, 2nd Edit.) I have been unable to find any decided case interpreting the phrase "on deck at shipper's risk" inserted in a bill of lading; but a little consideration will I think render it susceptible of interpretation. A bill of lading is a document which states the terms upon which the goods therein mentioned are to be carried, and qualifies the risks to which a carrier by sea would otherwise be exposed. In stating the conditions upon which the goods are to be carried, it is an instrument for his protection. From a case mentioned in Pritchard's Admiralty Dig., p. 83, n. 15, the *Waldo Davies*, decided in America, it would seem that if the master of a ship, in the absence of contract to that effect, takes upon himself to carry goods on deck, he does so at his own risk; and, if they should be lost, he cannot protect himself under the exception of dangers of the seas, at least unless the accident by which they are lost would have been attended with the same result if they had been under deck. If, then, the master of a ship states in the bill of lading that certain goods are carried "on deck at shipper's risk," I cannot doubt that those words express a term or condition which is inserted for his protection. But the master of a ship, as a carrier for hire, has notwithstanding such a protection, duties to discharge in relation to those goods, such as seeing that they are properly and securely stowed, and using such care, skill, and diligence in regard to them as might reasonably be expected from him in the ordinary and proper course of his business as a carrier for hire. If that should be so, the master's liability in such a case as the present would seem to me to be determined upon the same principle, as, for example his liability for leakage and breakage, when it is expressly stipulated in the bill of lading that he should not be accountable for them. In *Phillips v. Clark*, 26, L. J. Rep., N. S., C. P., 168, it was held that the master of a ship was liable under a bill of lading for loss arising from leakage and breakage, (which were exceptions stated in that document,) caused by the negligence of himself and his servants in stowing the goods. *Czech v. General Steam Navigation Company* (37, L. J. Rep., N. S., C. P. 3), and *Leuw v. Dudgeon* (ibid. p. 5.) were to the same effect. In the former of these two cases, bales shipped on board a steamer under a bill of lading containing the exceptions (among others) "of machinery, boilers, steam, and every other dangers and accidents of the seas, rivers, and steam navigation of whatever nature and kind, free of breakage, leakage, and damage," having been damaged in the course of the voyage by the defendants, it was held that the bill of lading did not protect the defendants from liability for damage accruing through the negligence of themselves or their servants. Upon the same principle, if, in the case now before this Court, negligence on the part of the master or his servants were proved, his liability for the loss complained of would attach, notwithstanding the words in the bill of lading "on deck at shipper's risk." Now what are the material facts of the case? The *Merionethshire* sailed from London on the 22nd May, and had 17 cases of deck goods when she started. It did not appear that "Collodion" was marked on any of the three cases which contained that article. The first mate of the *Merionethshire* gave the following description of the manner in which the 17 cases on deck were secured, of the weather encountered by the ship on the 17th of June and of the throwing overboard on that day of the cases which were on the lee-side of the deck, including the three cases of collodion, which were also on the lee-side of the deck:—

"They were lashed to a boom on both sides of the main hatchway by a three inch rope, and the rope was made fast to ringbolts, the breast lashings to a boom, one lashing

to keep them down, and one to keep them close to the combing of the hatchway. One of them was leaning just as we got to the Nore, and I threw it overboard by the Captain's orders. I felt a strong sulphuric acid smell; and we took the marks of it, and threw it overboard. The other 16 were carried in safety until we got into the South-west monsoons. About the 17th of June, near Ras-Afoun, we got into very heavy seas from South and West. In fact, the beginning of the South-west monsoon. I suppose it was about four o'clock in the afternoon. We had to fix the iron casings or tops on the stokehole gratings to prevent the water going down to the stokeholes. Heavy bodies of water were going over all. The same sort of weather lasted all night. The weather got worse, and carried away about 25 feet of the weather rail; green seas coming over all, coming over the lower bridge. Between eight and ten in the morning, a green sea came and smashed up two or three of the lee cases of acid, that is, the cases stowed on the lee side of the ship. The lashings carrying away sent them to the lee bulwarks. I called what men I could to secure them. I suppose there were four or five men on the deck and the junior officers, but we had to pick them up with our fingers and throw them overboard. The stuff that came from those cases turned the deck purple, and there was a hissing, and it formed a scum on deck about half an inch thick. Some of the men complained of their feet being burnt. When we were putting them overboard, we had to keep the vessel off." The witness then said that he put extra lashings on the boxes on the weather side, and kept the vessel up again to windward, and he described the throwing overboard on the following day, the 18th June, of the remainder of the 17 cases which were on the weather side of the deck. George Thomas, quarter-master of the *Merionethshire*, gave evidence with reference to throwing the cases overboard on the morning of the 18th June, but not as to throwing the cases overboard on the 17th June, as he did not see this done. David Scott, master mariner, and marine surveyor, said most of the ships that came into Yokohama had deck cargo jettisoned. He added, "I have never known collision carried in the hold of a ship, or otherwise than on deck. I would consider there was danger to the men's lives and the ship's bulwarks with several cases washing about. As an experienced ship master, I think it would be impossible to secure cases rolling about in a heavy gale. I never threw any cargo overboard. I would not have hesitated in this case"; and with reference to fastening boxes carried on deck as cargo he said, "Boxes like these are as a rule fastened on each side of the combings of the hatchway. That is always done in fine weather. Spars are lashed between the combings. Two spars are tied to the ends of the hatchway. Then the boxes are fastened to those spars. The spars are fastened to the ringbolts. Fastened in that way they would stand any sort of weather, if there did not come a heavy sea. A heavy sea would be likely to break the lashings. The sea is described as breaking over the bridge, which I should say is 14 feet. I think that is a sea one might expect, coming that way at that time of the year. They cannot be secured in any other way on the ship's deck." In answer to the question by the Court, "Could the lashings be made so strong as to resist such a sea?" the same witness said, "Well, the lashings would have been better if they had been tied the day before than when done in London. If they had been tied with a chain, the lashings would not have broken so easily. Rope is better than chain as a rule, if it is new rope. I would not have considered it necessary to fasten them with rope." (See record sent to Court of Appeal.) "Chain is better than rope where the thing is standing a long time." Here the rope had only been standing since the 22nd May. William McDonald, marine surveyor, who stated that he had had considerable experience as a shipmaster, said, "In such weather as I have to touch on now, I think it would be my duty to throw them (the packages) overboard," and, with reference to the weather described by Read, the first mate of the *Merionethshire*, as that which that vessel had passed through on the 17th June, upon being asked whether that weather was such as a steam vessel leaving London on the 22nd May ought to expect to encounter, the

same witness, McDonald, said "Yes. The first burst of the South West monsoon is very heavy as a rule in the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal. The South West monsoon is very heavy all through in those seas; but it comes heavy first in the Arabian Sea. The first burst is, I believe, much heavier in the Arabian Sea than in the Bay of Bengal." Such are what appear to me to be the material parts of the evidence taken in the Court below applicable to the determination of this case. The points, then, which as it seems to me, have to be determined are, first, was the original fastening good; secondly, was such fastening rendered insecure and, if so, how; and thirdly, was the master, or were his servants justified, under the circumstances, in throwing the three cases of collision overboard, or in other words, were those three cases lost by "the dangers and accidents of the seas" as excepted in the bill of lading? Upon the first point, viz., the mode of stowage, we have the evidence of Read, the first mate. He describes the manner in which the cases were secured; and Scott states the way in which "as a rule" cases such as these were fastened on each side of the hatchway. Read's description and Scott's statement seem to me to be substantially the same. Scott says that if the boxes had been tied with a chain the lashings would not have broken so easily. That would probably be conceded. But Read says, "the heavy seas smashed up two or three of the lee cases of acids;" and it does not appear how chains, if they had been used instead of rope, would have protected the boxes from being broken by heavy seas. Moreover, Scott does not say that it is usual to fasten deck cargoes with chains. It may be a question whether for the purposes of keeping cargo steady, rope would not be better than chains. Some of the cases, then, on the lee side of the deck having been broken by heavy seas, they got loose from their fastenings and were carried about the deck, thereby endangering the bulwarks. The heavy seas which came on the deck prevented those cases that were not broken, and it may be taken from the evidence that there were some such, from being refastened. The alternative, then, was between either allowing those cases that were not broken, assuming there to have been some such, to remain on deck unsecured and be carried about on the deck by the seas which came on deck, with the consequent risk of damaging the bulwarks and other parts of the ship and otherwise interfering with its proper and safe navigation, or throwing those cases overboard. Having regard to the heavy seas which came on the deck of the ship, the latter course was I think properly taken. I understand both the witnesses, Scott and McDonald, in their evidence, to say that they would have adopted this course under the circumstances. Then it was said that the sea described by Read might be expected, having regard to the place where, and to the season of the year when, it was met with. But although that might be so, I think the sea as described by Read was, on the 17th June, unquestionably excessively rough. This is a case, then, in which the master of a ship carried certain goods on deck at the risk of the shipper, as expressed in the bill of lading. Those goods were, in my opinion, according to the evidence, properly and securely stowed on deck. Very heavy seas broke boxes with which they were lashed and caused such goods to get loose from their fastenings; and, as they could not be refastened in consequence of the heavy seas which broke on the deck, it was necessary for the proper and safe navigation of the vessel to throw them overboard. Under those circumstances their loss was, in my opinion, in no way attributable to the negligence of either the master or his servants, and came within the exception in the bill of lading "dangers of the seas." I may say that I differ with very great reluctance from the view taken by the learned judge in the court below of the evidence in the case. The judgment appealed from will be reversed, and judgment entered for the defendant in the court below; and the respondent must pay the costs in the court below and of the appeal.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 11th Dec.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

SUI-KOW v. J. A. TAYLOR.

Defendant is the manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China, and plaintiff, who was formerly in his service as cook, sought to recover \$10, wages he alleged to be due.

Plaintiff deposed that he entered the defendant's service on the 1st May last, his wages being fixed at \$10 per month. At the end of June he asked for an advance of wages, and defendant agreed to pay him \$12 per month, and he was afterwards paid at that rate. At the end of November, he was dismissed and paid off with \$2; and he now claimed \$10 as the balance of his wages for that month.

Defendant explained that he agreed at first to pay the plaintiff \$10 per month wages, and that at the end of his second month's service he voluntarily promised him a "cumshaw" of \$2 a month on condition that he attended well to his duties and did no squeezing. Plaintiff had not fulfilled these conditions, and therefore he had deducted the "cumshaws" from his last month's wages, which still gave him \$70 for his seven months' service.

HIS HONOUR considered that the \$2 was in effect added to plaintiff's wages, and not given as a "cumshaw;" but even if it were treated as such, defendant could not get back the earlier sums—at the most he could only stop that for the month of November. He (His Honour) would enter up judgment for the amount claimed with costs, and advised the defendant not to take any proceedings in the Mixed Court of the kind he talked of.

AH-CHIN v. JAMES HALY.

This was an action to recover \$64 for goods sold and delivered by the plaintiff, who is a tailor, &c., in Hongkew.

Defendant did not appear, and personal service of the summons was proved by the Usher.

It was explained that the defendant belonged to the crew of the Costa Rica barque *Martha*, which has been arrested by the Court of the United States Consulate-General for debt and is advertised to be sold. The crew have been paid off at their various Consulates, and the day the summons was issued defendant received his wages at H.M.'s Shipping Office, and, after paying his bill at the Sailors' Home, he had a balance of over \$60. HIS HONOUR gave judgment for the amount claimed with costs, and ordered a judgment summons to be issued forthwith.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 9th Dec.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

C. R. ENGLAND v. WILLIAM ARTHUR JONES.
Charge of Assault.

Defendant is an acting Sergeant in the Municipal Police Force, and he was summoned for assaulting the complainant at the fire in Hongkew on the 7th inst.

Complainant stated that he was in Mungo Alley looking at the fire, when defendant came up to him and told him to go away, and at the same time gave him two or three shoves. He told him that he would summon him, and then defendant gave him "two under blows in the small of the back." He then walked away, and in the afternoon he came to the Court and took out a summons.

For the defence two witnesses were called who saw the occurrence, and in their opinion the constable used no more force towards the complainant than to them and others he ordered away at the same time.

HIS HONOUR said the evidence showed that defendant had used no unnecessary force, and dismissed the summons.

10th Dec.

*R. (Captain DALRYMPLE, v. GEO ANDERSON, J. SCOTT, F. CORWIN, J. GREGORY and**H. A. LACEY.**Stealing Ship's Stores.*

Defendants belonged to the crew of the barque *Queen of the West*, and they were charged with stealing stores from the ship.

Lacey is an apprentice on board, and the other defendants are able seamen.

From the evidence of one of the witnesses named John Rees, an ordinary seaman on board, it appeared that on Friday evening last, he was in the fore-castle when he heard Scott, Anderson, and Corwin, bargain to sell a sampan man two pieces of new canvas belonging to the ship for three bottles of gin. The sampan man took the canvas away with him, and shortly afterwards Lacey came into the fore-castle with three bottles of gin, which he obtained from the sampan man who fetched it from ashore. At the time Gregory was ashore. The other defendants drank the gin, which made them intoxicated. The same witness deposed that on the same day he saw Scott pass four coils of rope over the side of the vessel into the bumboat; and that about a week previously, when the vessel was alongside the wharf, Scott, Corwin and Anderson sold a pet of white lead to a Chinaman for \$2.50.

The second-mate proved that the articles mentioned were missing from the ship, and one of the apprentices spoke to seeing the defendants, with the exception of Gregory, drinking in the fore-castle on Friday night, and Lacey afterwards told him that the drink was obtained by passing rope over the side.

GREGORY pleaded that he knew nothing of the thefts, being on ashore on two occasions and in the hold on the third occasion when it was alleged they were committed. Lacey denied taking the gin into the fore-castle, and also contradicted the statement of his fellow apprentice that he said some rope had been put over the side, but he admitted being drunk. The other three defendants did not deny the thefts, but they contradicted the witness Rees on minor points, and alleged that the Captain wanted to get them out of the ship because he could get other men at a cheaper rate.

HIS WORSHIP said there was no evidence against Gregory, who would be accordingly discharged. It was plain that Lacey was implicated with the other defendants, but he was not disposed to punish him on account of his youth, and he thought it was highly probable that he had been led into it by the others, whose companionship he should have shunned as apparently his fellow apprentice had wisely done. Lacey would return to his ship, and he hoped the present proceedings would be a warning to him to be cautious in future. The other three defendants would be remanded to the following day, to enable the Captain to make out their wages' account, as they would have to leave the ship and go to gaol, and to furnish an estimate of the value of the stores stolen.

11th Dec.

R. (Captain DALRYMPLE) v. G. ANDERSON,
J. SCOTT and F. CORWIN.

The defendants were remanded from the previous day on the charge of stealing stores from the barque *Queen of the West*, under circumstances reported above, and they were brought up this morning to receive sentence.

The Captain had made out their wages' account, and it appeared that they had only \$17 to receive among them, without deducting the costs of the Court.

HIS WORSHIP said that the prisoners would forfeit the wages due them to go towards payment for the stores they had stolen, and they would have to pay the costs, be discharged the ship, and be imprisoned for six weeks. The boy Lacey (he and a man named Gregory were also defendants the previous day and were dismissed) would have to pay his portion of the costs; but as regarded Gregory the Captain would have to pay the costs.

H.B.M.'s COURT, HIOGO.
(*Japan Herald*.)

Friday, 22nd Nov., 1878.

Before M. FLOWERS, Esq., Consul.
Messrs. MACKRILL SMITH and HUGHES,
Assessors.

E. C. KIRBY & Co. v. THE CHINA FIRE
INSURANCE COMPANY.

This was a claim for \$45,000 with 10 per cent. annual interest from the 10th August, 1878, due on fire-insurance policies.

Mr. Montague Kirkwood appeared for plaintiffs.

Mr. St. John Browne for defendants.

Plaintiffs stated in their petition that they on the 7th March last paid defendants \$262.50 for insuring for a year against loss or damage by fire \$5,000 on a godown and \$10,000 on a dwelling house and store; that they on the 1st Sept., 1877, paid defendants \$125 for insuring for a year against loss by fire \$10,000 on goods and merchandise, stored in a godown on lot No. 17, Kobe, and that the said policy was afterwards transferred to the goods stored in a godown on lots No. 13 and 14, Kobe; that they on the 29th March last paid defendants \$347.50 for insuring for a year against loss by fire \$20,000 on general stock in trade of a store-keeper, contained in the store and godown on lots No. 13 and 14, Kobe. It was declared that, subject to the conditions indorsed on the policies, the plaintiffs should be paid by the defendants all such damage and loss as they should suffer by fire on the property in the said policies mentioned, not exceeding the sums therein mentioned. The conditions endorsed on the policies are identical and as far as material to this suit as follows:—"If any loss or damage by fire be sustained, the person assured is forthwith to give notice of such loss at the Company's office, and within one month at the utmost deliver to the Company as exact an account of the particulars as the nature of the case may admit. If it be required, such account shall be supported by the oath of the party assured, by the certificate of a magistrate, or British Consul, or of some persons who may reside in the immediate neighbourhood of the sufferer, and who may be competent witnesses to the character of the assured and to the fairness of the claim, and further by the production of such books, documents or vouchers as may appear necessary. If there be found to be any false swearing, fraud, collusion, or wilful mis-statement on the part or behalf of the person assured, or if it shall appear that the fire shall have been occasioned by any wilful act or connivance on his part, the policy in such case shall be void and the right of recovery forfeited."

On the 10th Aug., 1878, the insured premises were destroyed by fire, whereby the plaintiffs suffered considerably more loss than the several amounts insured as aforesaid, but although the plaintiffs have frequently demanded payment from defendants, the amount still remained unpaid. The plaintiffs therefore asked that defendants be ordered to pay them \$45,000, with 10 per cent. annual interest from the 10th Aug., 1878, and costs.

The defendants in their answer admitted the insurance, but pleaded that the policies, besides the conditions quoted by the plaintiffs, contain the following clause V:—"Assurance made with other Companies on property assured by this Company, must be noticed either in or by endorsement upon the policies granted by this Company. Persons neglecting to notify such assurances with other Companies will forfeit their right of recovery on this Company," and X:—"If any difference shall arise with respect to the amount of any claim for loss or damage by fire and no fraud be suspected, such difference shall be submitted to two Arbitrators, one chosen by each party, whose award or that of their umpire shall be final and binding on all parties." That plaintiffs effected assurance with another Company upon the property already assured by the defendants, that is to say with the London and Lancashire Fire Assurance Company, in the sum of \$20,000, and neglected to have such assurance noticed upon their policies. The plaintiffs further neglected to deliver in to the defendants as exact an account of the particulars and amount of the loss alleged to have been sustained, as the nature of the case admitted, and have refused to comply with the request of the defendants that the amount of plaintiffs' alleged loss should be supported by the attestation of competent witnesses and by the production of books, documents and papers; the defendants have offered to submit the claim for the loss under the 1st policy, mentioned in the petition, to arbitration, but the plaintiffs have refused such offer. For these reasons the defendants denied indebtedness.

(*Hioغو News*.)

After evidence on behalf of the plaintiff had been taken,

The Attorney for the defendant Co. did not call any witnesses, and intimated that he did not intend to give any evidence himself, or put in any documentary proof.

The COURT, in giving judgment, said it considered the plaintiff had proved that he was entitled to the amount claimed, together with interest thereon at the rate 10 per cent. from the 10th day of August last; and therefore ordered that the defendant Company do pay to the plaintiff the sum of \$45,000, together with interest thereon at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum from the 10th day of August last, until date of payment, and the costs of the suit.

Extracts.

THE AFGHAN AT HOME.

(*Daily Press*.)

Just as the Afghans resemble the Arabs in their lawlessness, bigotry, and personal habits, so also they are like them in being fervidly poetical. The Arab's laws are poems, and all the daily circumstances of his life combine to make him romantic and picturesque. Nature provides him with all the metaphors, tropes, and illustrations of common talk, and he in return invests every object of his landscape with all the fancies of his far-roaming imagination. It is the same with the Afghans. No people possess a country more suggestive to the poetical mind than they do, and gross and rude though the Afghans are, their minds are in tune with their surroundings. Indeed, the squalid, scowling Afghan is a poem himself, for, rugged in feature as the hill above him, his speech is as flowery as the valley he overlooks. It is not only that the soil he stands on is sanctified by great historical memories, of Hebrew captivity and the ruin of Mede and Persian, the march of Alexander the Great, and the onrush of the first Moslem armies, and by even grander memories, that are prehistoric, of the first passage of the word's peoples from the cradle of nations that lies upon the frontier of his country. Every detail about him is picturesque—from his name, "the lion heart," to the jessamine that shades him. Stout of limb and fierce at heart, fearless of man or beast upon his hills, he leads out his herd to its favourite pasture, and lies down with his long jezail resting on its support, and the match ready burning, to listen for strange footfalls along the narrow pass, looking, as he lies there in his shaggy robe of camel's hair, like some watchful animal of prey. Follow the direction of his eye, and down below there, where "the pearl stream" takes a bend round the rocks that persist in barring its way to "the Father of Rivers," you will see a tent made of a black blanket, its door a mat of reeds, with a big stone laid on each corner to keep the hill man's home from being blown away by the sudden gusts of wind that sweep down from "Solomon's Throne," and at the door you may mark standing stately as a young pine tree, blue kirtled and blue hooded, the "Spirit of the Rose," as she feeds the young camel foal from her hand. At her side lies a shaggy dog, its nose pointing up the pass, and though at every sound among the rocks of prowling leopard or startled bird it raises its head in inquiry, the hill man's wife goes about her duties careless of danger and thoughtless of her solitude. She knows that somewhere along the pass her lord's jezail, "the friend that never lies," covers the pathway, and that no foe, be it man or beast, can come near the black blanket tent unchallenged.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CHINESE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

I.—This Society shall be denominated the Chinese Religious Tract Society. Its object shall be to circulate religious books and tracts throughout the Chinese Empire, and its headquarters shall be in Shanghai.

II.—The Officers of this Society shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, two Corresponding Secretaries, two Recording Secretaries and a Treasurer.

III.—Any person may become a Life-member of the Society by making or obtaining for the Society a donation of fifty dollars.

IV.—Each Subscriber, paying annually three dollars or more, shall be considered a Member of the Society.

V.—The subscriptions solicited shall be employed as a means of enabling the Society to publish and distribute books and tracts at a cheap rate.

VI.—Auxiliary Societies shall be formed as far as practicable in different parts of the Empire with a view to promote the objects of the Society by encouraging the distribution of Religious Tracts, and to obtain subscriptions or collections in aid of its funds. The President and Secretary, for the time being, of any such Auxiliary Society, formed on the principles of this Society and contributing an annual donation to its Treasury, shall be *ex officio* members of this Society.

VII.—The Executive Committee shall be authorized to grant to any person who shall make a collection for the Society, a return of tracts, if required, equal in value to one-half of such collection; and when the remittances, at one or more periods, shall amount to fifty dollars, the person making such collections shall be considered a Member for life.

VIII.—The Board of Trustees shall consist of forty members. Upon the death or resignation of a member, the Corresponding Secretaries shall issue a circular asking from the members of the Board written ballots for a new member; these ballots shall then be laid before the Executive Committee and the Chairman shall declare the result of the election. The candidate may be either a foreigner or native.

IX.—There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the President, Treasurer and Secretaries, with two members of the Board of Trustees to be elected for the purpose, whose duty it shall be to attend to the general working of the institution.

X.—There shall be a Publishing Committee composed of four foreigners and four natives, representing the following four constituencies, viz., 1. Presbyterians and Congregationalists, 2. English Episcopalians and American Episcopalians, 3. Baptists, 4. Methodists. All books and tracts published by the Society shall be examined and approved by this Committee, which shall contain no more than two members from the ecclesiastical connection, and no book or tract shall be published to which any member of the Committee shall object.

XI.—Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held monthly, and frequent correspondence shall be maintained with the various Auxiliary Societies.

XII.—An annual report shall be published in Chinese and English, bearing on the condition and operations of the Society.

XIII.—The Board of Trustees shall fill all vacancies occurring in the Executive and Publishing Committees in the manner provided for the election of new Trustees.

XIV.—The Board of Trustees shall meet annually on the first Tuesday in May, and, at the call of the President, at such other time as may be necessary.

XV.—An Annual Meeting of the Subscribers shall be held on the first Wednesday after the first Tuesday in May, at which the President of the Board of Trustees, or in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents shall preside.

XVI.—This constitution shall not be altered or amended except by the Board of Trustees, and not then till a notice of the proposed amendment, signed by at least ten members of the Board, shall have been sent to each member of the Board at least six months previous to the amendment.

THE CITY OF GLASGOW BANK.

(*The Times.*)

In its City article, dated the 18th October, the *Times* refers to the report of the accountants and lawyers called in to examine the books of the City of Glasgow Bank, and says "We must pay its compilers the compliment of saying that their statements are clear and carefully drawn. The shareholders will now have at least some light thrown upon the condition of the bank's affairs. A most sombre light it is, unhappily. The sum of the whole matter is that the bank has lost on a moderate and probably favourable estimate £6,200,000—i.e., the whole of the paid-up capital and reserve fund, together with fully £5,000,000 besides. That is a most disastrous statement for the unhappy shareholders, and we need

hardly say that a loss of such magnitude could never have fallen on them but for reckless mismanagement to begin with and deliberate and long-continued fraud practised to hide that mismanagement. The story set forth in the report now published is one of the most disgraceful in the history of banking. Accounts have been deliberately falsified, securities entered at fictitious values, bad debts taken as good assets, and the very gold which ought to have been held under the Act of 1845 against the note issue deliberately squandered to the extent of over £300,000. The Government has been deceived by false returns, the shareholders by "cooked" balance-sheets, and everything done in short that a perverse ingenuity could think of to conceal the bankrupt condition of the bank until it became a national calamity. The revelations of the investigators must startle the mercantile community almost as much as the news of the failure, and ought to be the signal for many much-needed banking reforms. Here is a bank professedly occupied with the commerce of Scotland, a bank notable among Scotch banks for its pushing endeavours to establish branches all over the northern half of the Kingdom, throwing away millions of the money of its depositors to support hopelessly rotten firms in the East India trade, investing in doubtful or altogether speculative securities, such as Erie Shares and other American Railway stocks, buying land in Australia and New Zealand, and generally behaving like an insane gambler mad to be rid of his fortune. This, too, is a position into which the managers of this bank have obviously drifted at first by following the ordinary recognized course of banking business. They have lent rather freely on a bad security, or have puffd up some possibly shrewd and rich, but over-eager speculator, to the loss of the concern. Then courage failed them; they dared not tell the truth. It was easier to hide losses in ambiguous balance-sheets good for deception, and the first losses were thus hid. Then worse came, and it was necessary to go from one criminal act to another in order to keep the ever-increasing losses out of sight, until at last the criminality reached the point of paying a splendid dividend and issuing a balance-sheet, showing a large surplus at the very time when the funds of the bank were so utterly exhausted that the managers had to abstract the gold held against the notes in order to keep the concern above water for a few more days. No comments can add to the force of facts like these. We can only repeat that if such offences against the innocent public and suffering shareholders are allowed to go unpunished, there is an end to confidence in Scotch banking. A shock will indeed be given to the credit of all banks, such as must prove most injurious to the mercantile credit of England; and punishment alone will not suffice. There must be reform as well."

Advertisements.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—It will be seen from the Official List of Awards at the Paris Exhibition, that Messrs. Huntley and Palmers, the celebrated Biscuit Manufacturers of Reading and London, have obtained the GRAND PRIZE—the only one awarded to the Biscuit trade. The honour it appears is further enhanced by the complimentary terms of the Jurors' Report which was as follows:—"Unrivalled House, known throughout the World for its enormous production, and for the excellent quality of its manufactures."—*Morning Post.*

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—The report of the destruction by fire of the New Show Rooms at 17 Bride Street, London, E.C., of Messrs. Pellatt & Co., the well known Glass and China Manufacturers, has reached us. These show rooms, as would be noticed from an advertisement lately appearing in our columns, have only been opened a short time, and their destruction has been complete. Fortunately Messrs. Pellatt & Co. can conduct their business at their Falcon Glass Works, 29, Pomeroy Street, Old Kent Road, London, S.E., and to that address they request their friends to send duplicates of existing and un finished orders, as their order books have been destroyed in this unfortunate fire.—*Ibid.*

AWARDS AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—Messrs. J. Moir & Son, the Preserved Provision Merchants of London and Aberdeen, have, it appears, gained the highest Award obtainable at the Paris Exhibition, viz., the Gold Medal. This enterprising firm appears to take great care that all their goods shall be of undoubted quality, as the following instance is sufficient to show. It appears that for several years the oranges from Seville have arrived in this country in bad order—a large portion quite unfit for use. Under these circumstances Messrs. Moir & Son have opened a factory of their own at Seville, where in future their Marmalade will be made from oranges fresh gathered from the gardens.—*Ibid.*

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Kianghwan*, for Hankow—Comte Bela Szeczeni, Messrs. Kreiter, Loiry and T. B. Hedge. For Chinkiang—Messrs. J. R. Reddie and F. V. Fonseca.

Per str. *Haeting*, for Foochow—Messrs. M. Serruys, T. M. Molchanoff and M. Nemchinoff.

Per str. *Glenearn*, for London—Mrs. Courtney and three children. For Hongkong—Mr. G. L. James.

Per str. *Genkai Maru*, for Nagasaki—Capt. W. Abell. For Yokohama—Messrs. R. T. Rennie and F. Krebs.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Genkai Maru*, from Japan—Mrs. Mackenzie and child, Messrs. Vandevort, Carnegie, F. Krebs, A. Tugwell, E. Wheen, Nakazima and Suzuki.

Per str. *Sin Nanzing*, from Tientsin—Messrs. H. Fraser (H. M.'s Chargé d'Affaires at Pekin), W. Forbes and Slaghek.

Per str. *Haeting*, from Foochow—Mr. Luther.

Per str. *Patroclus*, from Liverpool—Miss Edwards and Mr. Palmer.

Per str. *Europe*, from Foochow—Messrs. S. A. Solomonoff, R. M. Browne, and F. Reid.

Per str. *Hankow*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Mowat.

Per str. *Glenroy*, from Yokohama—Mr. Mankichi.

Per str. *Fungshun*, from Tientsin—Mr. F. P. Knight.

Per str. *Pantah*, from Tientsin—Messrs. Lehmeier and R. B. Mostyn.

Per str. *Tehevan*, from Europe, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, and Mr. Hubert.

Per str. *Wenchow*, from Swatow—Captain Abel.

Per str. *Chintung*, from Taku—Mr. J. Newbury and servant.

Per str. *Shun Lee*, from Tientsin—Messrs. Wilson and Bryner.

Per str. *Kokonoje Maru*, from Japan—Messrs. C. W. Holliday, E. J. O. Rowland, R. Walker and Wingrove.

Per str. *Kiangching*, from Hankow—Capt. Chang and Mr. Liu Loo-sang. From Wuhu—Rev. Mr. Gulick.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Geelong*, for Hongkong—Messrs. A. Carnegie and J. W. Vandevort.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.	Thermometer in shade.		Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M.		Wind.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.		
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.		Force.	Direction
Dec. 6	30.15	50.0	55.0	41.0	43.0	42.0	0	z. c.	..
7	29.99	51.0	56.0	43.0	51.5	50.2	3	s. b.m.	..
8	29.89	59.5	61.0	50.0	59.5	58.0	3	s.s.s.b.c.	..
9	30.20	49.0	55.0	39.0	40.0	37.0	0	s. b.c.	..
10	30.07	52.5	59.0	39.0	49.0	47.0	4	s.w.o.c.	.75
11	29.94	53.0	54.0	39.5	49.0	47.0	0	s.w.o.c.p	0.71
12	29.95	55.0	49.0	45.0	51.0	50.0	0	z. o.c.p.	0.81

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1878-9.

TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.						TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.—Continued.					
VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.	VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Glencagles	May 24	London	21,464.33	.....	21,464.33	Pekin	Aug 18	London	4,210.04	1,332.61	5,542.65
Loudoun Castle	" 26	"	20,043.24	.....	20,043.24	Mikado	" 20	"	4,441.02	386.31	4,827.33
Anchises	" 24	"	327.72	326.18	653.90	Djemnah	" 24	"	0.42	440.29	440.71
Lombardy	" 25	"	392.87	.....	392.87	Windhover	" 31	"	8,722.56	138.07	8,860.63
"	" 25	Bombay	.....	89.38	89.38	Ajax	" 31	"	1,244.39	474.71	1,719.10
Ocean King	" 29	London	19,092.00	.....	19,092.00	Strathleven	" 31	"	6,240.05	559.25	6,799.30
Glenartney	" 29	"	17,775.19	.....	17,775.19	Hesperia	" 31	"	529.29	.....	529.29
Radnorshire	" "	"	16,385.45	.....	16,385.45	"	" 31	Hamburg	25.71	.....	25.71
Glencarn	June 1	"	13,699.74	.....	13,699.74	"	" 31	London	1,791.43	1,721.23	3,512.66
Sindh	" 1	Marseilles	12.67	.....	12.67	Kashgar	" 31	Venice	1.30	.....	1.30
Sarpedon	" 1	London	17,596.40	.....	17,596.40	"	" 31	Bombay	2.66	48.32	50.98
Stad Haarlem	" 6	"	19,047.73	.....	19,047.73	Iraouaddy	Sept. 7	London	34.00	0.45	34.45
Thibet	" 8	"	3,831.96	.....	3,831.96	"	" 7	Bombay	.....	26.46	26.46
"	" 8	Hamburg	1.20	.....	1.20	Altona	" 13	London	4,370.00	254.28	4,624.28
"	" 8	Bombay	0.75	39.62	40.37	Glaucus	" 14	"	1,725.44	163.22	1,888.66
Afghan	" 10	London	18,598.93	.....	18,598.93	Khedive	" 14	"	3,930.72	342.25	4,272.97
Hankow	" 13	"	23,067.06	.....	23,067.06	"	" 14	Bombay	112.80	179.20	292.00
Orestes	" 13	"	1,280.93	.....	1,280.93	Serapis	" 18	London	8,473.18	.....	8,473.18
N'veau Mondellia	" 13	Nicolajefsk	1,548.87	.....	1,548.87	Titanica	" 19	"	6,011.96	.....	6,011.96
Argyle	" 13	London	11,472.18	.....	11,472.18	Sindh	" 21	"	.....	107.76	107.76
Yangtse	" 15	"	441.15	.....	441.15	"	" 21	Bombay	.....	32.51	32.51
"	" 15	Marseilles	34.22	.....	34.22	Ulysses	" 25	London	4,721.81	920.71	5,642.52
Menelaus	" 21	London	3,443.14	.....	3,443.14	Hindostan	Oct. 3	Hongkong	.....	30.02	30.02
Sunda	" 22	"	301.92	.....	301.92	"	" 3	London	.....	396.58	396.58
Coriolanus	" 22	Bombay	6.21	35.54	41.75	"	" 3	Bombay	.....	202.92	202.92
Patroclus	" 25	London	11,460.13	.....	11,460.13	Prism	" 3	London	1,240.83	480.70	1,721.53
"	" 27	"	3,742.82	.....	3,742.82	Syria	" 9	"	4,231.47	404.24	4,635.71
Ava	" 29	Hamburg	3.20	.....	3.20	Diomed	" 9	"	63.76	338.40	402.16
"	" 29	London	227.89	36.00	263.89	Tigre	" 10	"	65.72	238.74	304.46
Sestos	" 29	Marseilles	11.39	.....	11.39	"	" 10	Bombay	.....	53.11	53.11
Teheran	July 6	London	2,248.79	369.25	2,618.04	Venetia	" 17	London	.....	771.26	771.26
"	" 6	"	5,162.54	706.87	5,859.41	"	" 17	Bombay	.....	63.28	63.28
"	" 6	Dunedin	13.59	.....	13.59	Sarpedon	" 19	London	473.46	882.58	1,356.04
"	" 6	Bombay	27.41	.....	27.41	Yangtse	" 23	"	.....	209.35	209.35
Achilles	" 9	London	3,448.04	.....	3,448.04	"	" 23	Bombay	.....	34.30	34.30
"	" 9	Odessa	68.70	.....	68.70	Nizam	" 31	London	294.89	22.56	317.45
Viking	" 10	London	20,346.69	1,553.81	21,900.50	"	" 31	Bombay	.....	64.62	64.62
Dago	" 12	"	15,452.59	484.43	15,937.02	Deucalion	" 31	London	1,215.66	402.44	1,618.10
Amazona	" 13	"	398.47	506.39	904.86	Glenalloch	Nov. 2	"	103.34	110.51	213.85
Glengyle	" 17	"	14,595.40	.....	14,595.40	Ava	" 7	Bombay	.....	40.90	40.90
Feronia	" 17	"	12,021.98	.....	12,021.98	Antenor	" 9	Port Said	85.15	.....	85.15
Kolga	" 17	Nicolajefsk	1,405.18	.....	1,405.18	"	" 9	London	2,287.71	551.83	2,839.54
Stentor	" 19	London	3,955.01	373.36	4,328.37	Gwalior	" 14	Bombay	.....	279.49	279.49
Cairnsmuir	" 21	"	15,049.57	.....	15,049.57	"	" 14	London	2,280.72	473.61	2,754.33
Malabar	" 24	"	9,940.92	880.42	10,821.34	Orestes	" 18	"	1,259.06	.....	1,259.06
Zambesi	" 20	"	4,905.32	1,167.37	6,072.69	Amazona	" 21	"	213.65	.....	213.65
"	" 20	Bombay	36.98	32.27	69.25	Thermopylae	" 27	"	6,463.56	399.70	6,863.26
Hector	" 26	London	3,313.89	306.29	3,620.38	Agamemnon	" 29	"	290.33	917.43	1,207.76
Standard	" 26	"	4,424.89	36.56	4,461.44	"	" 28	Bombay	.....	269.09	269.09
Anadyr	" 27	"	0.78	637.69	638.47	"	" 28	London	1,458.59	442.87	1,901.46
Fleurs Castle	Aug. 5	"	20,234.52	.....	20,234.52	Anadyr	Dec. 5	Marseilles	4.82	.....	4.82
Surat	" 3	"	3,585.59	602.94	4,188.53	"	" 5	London	1.50	617.21	618.71
"	" 3	Bombay	.....	23.25	23.25	Glencarn	" 12	"	783.47	1,430.28	2,213.75
Taueer	" 9	London	5,659.69	33.50	5,693.19	Total			456,602.39	25,995.71	482,598.10
Peiho	" 10	"	2.23	430.61	432.84						
City of Baltimore	" 12	"	5,605.87	68.13	5,674.00						

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1878-9.

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.						TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.—Continued.					
VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.	VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Tokio Maru	June 4	Nagasaki	298.76	.....	298.76	Saikio Maru	Aug 22	San F'cisco	17.81	1.73	19.54
"	" 4	Higo	4.16	.....	4.16	Gleniffer	" 30	New York	285.94	2,528.51	2,814.45
"	" 4	Yokohama	4.85	.....	4.85	Nagoya Maru	Sep. 10	"	1.64	493.60	495.24
Hiroshima Maru	" 8	New York	236.13	.....	236.13	"	" 10	Chicago	212.70	550.46	763.16
"	" 8	Roston	141.43	.....	141.43	"	" 10	San F'cisco	6.30	115.23	121.53
Orestes	" 8	New York	172.07	.....	172.07	Merionethshire	" 19	New York	687.04	9,185.70	9,872.74
Nagoya Maru	" 20	"	842.21	.....	842.21	City of Santiago	" 26	"	.....	3,517.72	3,517.72
"	" 20	Boston	88.02	.....	88.02	Hiroshima Maru	Oct. 2	Chicago	16.34	960.37	976.71
Menelaus	" 21	New York	44.21	.....	44.21	"	" 2	San F'cisco	9.00	112.69	121.69
Patroclus	" 27	"	204.33	.....	204.33	"	" 2	New York	.....	699.40	699.40
Saikio Maru	" 25	Yokohama	14.80	.....	14.80	"	" 2	Yokohama	5.54	.....	5.54
Tokio Maru	July 2	New York	130.07	.....	130.07	Ocean King	" 10	New York	33.97	6,807.34	6,841.31
"	" 2	Chicago	76.91	.....	76.91	Glencagles	" 15	"	.....	3,980.98	3,980.98
"	" 2	San F'cisco	235.39	.....	235.39	Genkai Maru	" 14	"	.....	440.01	440.01
"	" 2	Nagasaki	3.30	.....	3.30	"	" 14	Chicago	.....	487.93	487.93
Anchises	" 9	New York	1.65	.....	1.65	Braemar Castle	" 29	New York	2.27	6,038.69	6,038.96
Glenorchy	" 16	"	1,206.57	1,210.07	2,416.64	Hiroshima Maru	" 29	"	930.43	.....	930.43
Saikio Maru	" 22	"	70.98	334.54	405.52	Genkai Maru	Nov 15	San F'cisco	.....	30.01	30.01
"	" 22	Chicago	.....	111.32	111.32	Glenfinlas	" 15	New York	0.18	7,692.80	7,692.98
"	" 22	San F'cisco	.....	129.48	129.48	Haydn Brown	" 22	"	416.40	1,647.65	2,064.05
Gordon Castle	" 27	New York	1,093.66	1,852.37	2,946.03	Glenartney	" 29	"	22.32	7,405.02	7,427.34
Hiroshima Maru	Aug. 6	"	1.01	692.15	693.16	Nagoya Maru	Dec. 3	"	.....	881.38	881.38
"	" 6	Chicago	51.50	.....	51.50	Total			7,777.86	58,897.21	66,675.07
Saikio Maru	" 22	New York	208.40	207.12	415.52						
"	" 22	Chicago	.....	784.94	784.94						

SHANGHAI OPIUM AND SILK RETURNS FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1878.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To GRAT BRITAIN.	To HAMBURG AND CONTINENT.	To AMERICA.	To HONG- KONG, COAST PORTS, &c.	TOTAL CHINA.	JAPAN TRANSHIPPED.	GRAND TOTAL.
Total as per last Report	Bales. 9,482	Bales. 18,481	Bales. 3,089	Bales. 1,486	Bales. 32,538	Bales. ..	Bales. 32,538
Subsequent Shipments	971	1,732	170	78	2,958	..	2,958
Total....	10,453	20,214	3,259	1,564	35,496	..	35,496

OPIUM

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 7TH DECEMBER, 1878.

IMPORTED	MALWA.		PATNA.		BENARES.		PERRIAN.	
	Ochets.	Weight.	Ochets.	Weight.	Ochets.	Weight.	Ochets.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	170	170.00	..	..	15	18.00	32	32.00
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Imported direct to the shore	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	170	170.00	..	..	15	18.00	32	32.00
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	36	35.00	168	180.50	92	110.40	4	4.00

Description.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Total.
RE-EXPORTED.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.	Ochets. Wght.
Malwa	88 88.00	61 61.00	10 10.00	14 14.00	23 23.00	73 73.60	.. ..	68 58.00	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	327 327.50
Patna	4 4.00	.. ..	.. ..	3 3.00	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	7 8.40	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	14 16.80
Benares	6 7.20	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	5 6.00	.. ..	.. ..	6 7.20	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	17 20.40
Perrian	17 17.00	3 3.00	3 3.00	1 1.00	1 1.00	5 5.00	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	30 30.00
Total..	115 117.00	64 64.00	13 13.00	18 18.00	29 30.00	78 78.50	.. ..	71 73.60	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	388 394.70

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 13TH DECEMBER, 1878.

PIECE GOODS.—Since the 4th instant there has been for the season of the year a fair demand for 8½-lbs. Grey Shirtings; supplies of these are not excessive and go off readily, and an advance on common and medium qualities of about 1 caudreen may be quoted, this small rise however does not in a fair proportion compensate for the heavy fall in Exchange, which again takes away much chance of profits for Importers, even on their cheapest purchases; for heavy Shirtings also there has been a steady demand for the River, at prices of about 1 mace under the highest quotations of last autumn.—T-Cloths are still depressed, 8-lbs. have recovered a little at Auction, but private sales can only be made at very low rates. The season for the North being over, no sales of Drills or Sheetings are quoted, except at Auction; offers, however, for English Drills are rather better. Fancy goods have been more saleable. Hankow, Chinkiang and Japan have been this week taking most of the goods sold, and apparently a fair trade is doing there.

GREY SHIRTINGS.—8½-lbs.—Sales amount to 30,500 pieces, viz., Dewhurst's Eagle at £1.71, Tiger at £1.65, Three Legs at £1.60, Three Horse at £1.56½, Lion and Flag at £1.52½, Parrot at £1.50, Blue Fish at £1.52, do. (mildewed) at £1.50, Black Railway at £1.50, Red Railway at £1.42, Warrior at £1.44, Large Eagle and Tree at £1.42, Fish at £1.46, Horseman at £1.43, which quotations show an advance only on the common grades; the Auction sales this week give about the same quotations at last, except at yesterday's sale when common 8½-lbs. were decidedly higher.—7-lbs., have been but little wanted, except the better qualities which are scarce and maintain their value, no sales are quoted, or of 6-lbs. for which Tientsin was the best market.—9-lbs. Shirtings have again become saleable, after being neglected for about three months, Hankow is apparently the market for which they are wanted, and sales so far amount to 7,300 pieces; quotations are Hand and Branch at £2.24, Red Joss and Three Cash at £2.10, Two Cash at £2.07½, Blue J-ss, 9.10-lbs., at £2.05, and Blue Fish, 9½-lbs. at £1.90, Pagoda at £1.96.

T-CLOTHS, 7-lbs.—Sales are 5,000 pieces of the following:—Silver Fish at £1.20, Two cash at £1.09, Red Unicorn at £1.08, Paksuey at £1.05, there is no improvement in the market, and at the last Auction prices were weak. 8-lbs.—The reduced quantity offered at Auction this week went off at a slight recovery say about 1 caudreen over the former week, but the demand unless on speculation is very limited, the only sale noted is 2,500 pieces Dewhurst's M T at £1.37½. 6-lbs., 500 pieces Bird realised £0.85.

WHITE SHIRTINGS.—About 3,500 pieces 64-reed Red Princess and Flower chops found buyers at £1.57½ and £1.52, and the demand has been confined to this kind of cloth.

DRILLS.—No sales of English have been made except at Auction, at which rates this week are lower than last, and for American there has been no demand, the only quotation being £2.62½ for a few bales Boot Cock, further sales of damages have however been made.

JEANS.—A sale of 660 pieces 8-lbs. Three-Man Chop is quoted at £1.49, and of American 300 piece- Beaver at £2.10.

FANCY GOODS.—Velvets have come into demand again for Japan, and have recovered a little in price; besides at Auctions, 310 pieces were sold at £0.13.15 per yard. Of 1½yd Brocades a sale of 1,000 pieces assorted, Stag Chop, at £2.60, may be noted. Of Chintz Drills, 320 pieces of 25 yards realised £1.97½ per piece. 28in. Blue Handkerchiefs are selling quietly in small lots at £0.40 to £0.41 per doz., and 32-in. are also moving off. Turkey Red Cambrics at Auction show a little recovery, but the quantities selling are but small.

WOOLLENS.—Scarlet Camlets have again fallen, but others colors have been selling at higher rates; the regular Auctions satisfy all demand. Long Ells are quiet, without any special change in prices. Spanish Stripes are dull, with Scarlet again lower. Figured Orleans of good patterns are scarce, and prices somewhat higher.

	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Lt. Gt.	Black.	Purple.	Green.	Orange.	Mauve.	Ash & Lav.	White.	Total Sales
YUEN-FONG, 5th inst.												
Camlets S.S.G. p. pcs. £	10.80	11.02½/5	11.40/2½	11.30	10.95	.....	.....	12.07½/10	10.90/5	.....	10.55	...
Sales, pcs...	210	60	160	10	10	.....	.....	20	30	.....	10	510
" G.G. per pcs. £	10.80	11.17½	11.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.95	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	50	20	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	110
Long Ells " " " £	6.58	6.49	6.20	.....	5.15	.....	5.23	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	80	40	20	.....	40	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	200
S. Stripes T.T.B. p. yd. £	0.57	0.54½	0.63½	.....	.....	0.49½	0.48	.....	.....	0.52	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	66	12	30	.....	.....	6	6	.....	.....	6	.....	126
KIN-MING, 10th inst.												
Camlets C.P.H. p. pcs. £	11.55/62½	12.72½/80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	260
Sales, pcs...	200	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Long Ells C.P.H. p. pcs. £	6.64	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300
Sales, pcs...	300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Lasting, Lion p. pcs. £	.....	.....	.....	.....	11.02½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
" Elephant p. pcs. £	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.17½/25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
S. Stripes C.P.H. p. yd. £	0.50.9/51.1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96
Sales, pcs...	96	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...

E-wc, 11th inst.												
Camlets H.D.B. p. pcs. £	10.90/2½	12.00	11.70	11.65	10.75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	60	20	30	20	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	140
Long Ells H.D.B. p. pcs. £	6.41/3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	240	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	240
Sp. Stripes " p. yd. £	0.51/51½	0.49½	0.62	.....	0.43	.....	0.48½	.....	0.55½	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	66	6	42	.....	6	.....	6	.....	6	.....	.....	132
YUEN-FONG, 12th inst.												
Camlets S.S.G. p. pcs. £	10.75/80	11.07½/20	11.37½/40	11.37½	10.93½/7½	.....	.....	12.35	11.20/30	.....	10.50	.....
Sales, pcs...	230	60	150	10	20	.....	.....	20	30	.....	10	530
" G.G. per pcs. £	10.72½	11.25	11.35	.....	.....	.....	.....	12.30	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	40	10	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	90
Long Ells " per pcs. £	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
S. Stripes T.T.B. p. yd. £	0.56½/56½	0.54	0.63	.....	0.43½/¾	.....	0.47½	.....	0.50½	.....	0.52	.....
Sales, pcs...	132	24	60	.....	12	.....	12	.....	6	.....	6	252
MISCELLANEOUS.												
Sp. Stripes, Horse p. yd. £	0.50½/50.4	0.46.3	0.62.9	.....	0.41½	0.51	0.47	0.41	.....	0.54	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	60	18	12	.....	6	6	6	6	.....	6	.....	120

AUCTION SALES OF COTTON GOODS—

"Yuen-fong."—5th instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. House, at £1.41	Total.
7-lbs. Lighthouse, at £1.24; Man and Gun, at £1.23½	=1,000 pcs.
DRILLS—15-lbs. Peacock, at £1.74 to 1.74½	=2,450 "
VELVETS—22-inch Black, at £0.13.2 to 0.13.25	=420 "
"King Ming."—10th instant—	=150 "

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs.	Blue Ram.	Red Lion.	Blue Lion.	Red Buffalo	Red Dragon	Red Camel	Gold	Red	Green
Sales, pcs...	£1.53½/1.54½	£1.53½/1.54	£1.51½	£1.51½	£1.51	£1.50	1.60½	£1.56	£1.39½/1.39½
	1,500	4,500	700	250	250	250	250	50	1,500
"Nie Kee."—10th instant—									=9,250 "

TURKEY RED CAMBRICS.....	Sun, 1½-lbs.	Fisherman, 2½ to 2½-lbs.	Bull Head, 2 to 2½-lbs.	Beaver, 2½-lbs. to 3½-lbs.
Sales, pcs...	.....	£1.44/1.53½	£1.11½/1.28½	£1.20½/1.31½
TURKEY RED T-CLOTHS—Fig 4.9 to 4.10-lbs., at £2.76 to 2.80, and Jar 4.3-lbs., at £2.41 to 2.41½	.....	122	380	190
GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. Red Dragon, at £1.56—500 pcs.; Dragon, at £1.57½—250 pcs.; Blue Dragon, at £1.57—500 pcs.;				
Blue Fish (mildewed), at £1.49½—150 pcs.				
T-CLOTHS—7-lbs. Green Buffalo (damaged), at £0.80 to 0.84½				
"E.Wo."—11th instant—				

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs.	Blue Unicorn.	Green Unicorn.	Red Unicorn.	Black Unicorn.	Green Stork.	Blue Stork.	Star.	Lion.
Sales, pcs...	£1.57½	£1.57½	£1.57½	£1.51½	£1.42½	£1.46½/47...	£1.55½	£1.57
7-lbs.	500	500	500	950	500	1,250	600	500
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	250	250	.....	.....	.....
6-lbs. ....	.....	.....	.....	£1.13½	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	600	.....	.....	.....	.....
9.12-lbs.	£2.12½/2.15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	250	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
T-CLOTHS—8-lbs.	£1.36/38½	£1.29½/29½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	550	750	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7-lbs.	£1.18½	£1.15½	£1.09/9½	.....	£0.99/99½	£1.22	.....	£1.19½
Sales, pcs...	250	750	500	.....	1,000	250	.....	200
6-lbs. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£0.86½	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,500	.....	.....	.....
WHITE SHIRTINGS—64-reed Pagoda at £1.58½; 64-reed Horse and Jockey at £1.64½								
DRILLS—14 lbs. Dragon D at £1.71½; Dragon A at £1.72½								
TURKEY RED CAMBRICS 2½-lbs., at £1.20								
JEANS—Blue Unicorn at £1.63½								
"Yuen fong."—12th instant—								

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. House, at £1.41½ to 1.42, Two-Man at £1.41½ to 1.42, and Lighthouse at £1.42 to 1.42½	=4,950 "
7-lbs. Lighthouse, at £1.23½ to 1.24, Man and Gun at £1.23½	=2,750 "
WHITE SHIRTINGS—64-reed Lighthouse, at £1.55 to 1.56½	=2,000 "
DRILLS—15-lbs. Peacock, at £1.70½ to 1.71½	=900 "
VELVETS—22-in. Black, at £0.13	=150 "

SUNDRY AUCTIONS—

AMERICAN DRILLS—Flying Horse (damaged), at £2.32 to 2.58½	=2,325 "
Boot Cock " at £2.36½ to 2.51½	=960 "
Cock " at £2.45 to 2.46½	=240 "
Dragon " at £2.61 to 2.68½	=390 "
AMERICAN SHEETINGS—Indian Head " at £2.59 to 2.59½	=180 "
Flying Horse " at £2.54½ to 2.57½	=420 "
Boot Cock " at £2.32 to 2.37½	=940 "
Do. C " at £1.70	=100 "
9-lbs. Pig " at £1.57½	=60 "
DUTCH DRILLS—Dragon " at £2.01	=350 "
T-CLOTHS—Lion, 8-lbs. at £1.21½ to 1.22½, 7-lbs. at £1.01½ to 1.01½, and 6-lbs. at £0.94 to 0.96	=1,450 "
TURKEY RED CAMBRICS—Jar, 2.2½-lbs. at £1.11 to 1.37½, Dragon 2-lbs. at £1.15	=700 "
VELVETS—22-in., Black, Woman at £0.13.32½	=150 "
VELVETEENS—18-in. at £0.11.15 and 26-in. at £0.16.9	=120 "

METALS.—The market is very quiet, and the only sale reported of Nail-rods is 3,000 bundles Belgian at £1.67. Of Tin Plates, 200 boxes Parsons were sold at £4.10

KEROSENE OIL.—Very little doing, £1.60 is offered and refused, holders demanding £1.62½ to 1.64, stocks are gradually decreasing.

FREIGHTS.—Canon Harrison, British ship, 1,197 tons, Nagasaki and back, 20 lay days, \$1.70 per ton coal; M. A. Dixon, British barque, 415 tons, Nagasaki and back, 16 lay days, \$1.79 per ton coal; Vesuvius, American barque, 813 tons, Nagasaki and back, 25 lay days, \$1.87½, in full; Flintshire, British steamer, Nagasaki to this, dispatch, private terms; Vesta, American brig, 500 tons, Shanghai to Hio, 15 lay days, \$0.08 per case oil; Black Prince, British ship, 750 tons, Foochow and back, 24 lay days, \$2.350, in full; Queen of the West, British barque, 438 tons, Foochow and back, 18 lay days, \$1.450, in full; Abel Abbott, American barque, 590 tons, Amoy to New York, private terms.

ARTICLES.		QUOTATIONS.		ARTICLES.		QUOTATIONS.	
Cotton Piece Goods.							
G. E. GRAY SHIRTINGS—		T.m.c.	T.m.c.	BROAD CLOTH.....per yard		T.m.c.	T.m.c.
33½ yds. 39 in. 6-lbs.	per piece	1.12	@ 1.20	CAMLETS—		1.25	@ 1.60
7-lbs.	"	1.20	1.40	English, SS, 56 yds. 31 in. Assorted.		10.75	11.75
8½ to 8½-lbs.	"	1.39	1.71	LONG ELLS—			
Dewhurst XX	"	1.73	"	Scarlet, 24 yds. 31 in. 12-lbs.		6.05	6.65
9 to 9½-lbs.	nom.	1.90	2.05	Assorted		6.00	6.30
9.12 to 10-lbs. common quality, nom.	"	2.00	2.35	LASTINGS, 30 yds. 31 in.		7.50	11.00
best quality	"	2.40	2.55	GRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds. 31 in. Asst.		3.70	7.50
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				LUSTRES, Assorted		2.70	3.25
40 yds. 36 in. 56 reed	nom.	1.40	1.50	ORLEANS, Figured, 30 yds. 30 in. Asst.		3.15	3.55
60 reed	nom.	1.42	1.52	Plain, 30 yds. 31 in. Black.		3.10	3.45
64 reed	"	1.50	1.62	Metals and Sundries.			
64 reed best	"	1.68	1.90	JAPAN COPPER—Slabs		15.60	15.90
66 to 72 reed	"	1.90	2.10	Ore		14.25	14.60
best	"	2.10	2.60	QUICKSILVER		50.00	"
AMERICAN DRILLS—				TIN PLATES—14 x 10		3.90	4.10
40 yds. 30 in. 14-lbs.	"	2.62½	2.75	STEEL		2.80	2.90
AMERICAN JEANS—				Bamboo		3.20	3.40
30 yds. 30 in. 6½ to 8-lbs.	"	1.40	2.10	TIN, Fong Hing		15.70	15.80
AMERICAN SHEETINGS—				Quang-dia		15.50	15.60
40 yds. 40 in. 14-lbs. best	"	2.60	2.70	Fok Chok		15.50	15.60
ENGLISH DRILLS—				HOOP IRON		2.30	2.50
40 yds. 30 in. 14 to 15-lbs.	"	1.70	1.90	FIG IRON		16.00	18.00
best	"	2.00	2.20	IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 & 14		4.25	"
ENGLISH JEANS—				" " 11 & 21		4.40	"
30 yds. 30 in. 8 to 8½-lbs.	"	1.30	1.80	" " 15 & 25		5.30	"
ENGLISH SHEETINGS—				IRON—Nail Rod—			
40 yds. 40 in. 14 & 16-lbs.	"	1.95	2.20	Dawes' Best		1.92½	"
DUTCH DRILLS—				H. Rogers, Sons & Co.		1.85	1.90
30 in. 40 yds.	"	2.05	2.10	M.M. Crown		1.75	1.80
DUTCH JEANS—				Belgian		1.62½	1.66
30 in. 40 yds.	"	1.60	1.90	Flat and Round		2.00	2.30
T. CLOTHS—				Do. Belgian		1.80	1.90
6-lbs. 24 yds. 32 in. Ordinary, ...	"	0.85	0.92	LEAD, common brands		4.15	4.25
7-lbs.	"	0.93	1.03	L.B.		4.30	4.40
7-lbs. Mexican	"	1.05	1.50	SUGAR			
8 & 8½-lbs. 36 in.	"	1.23	1.65	Black, common		2.90	3.30
XX and best	"	1.70	1.90	Formosa		3.30	3.60
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue, 28 in. to 32 in. per doz.		0.39	0.55	White, No. 1		6.30	6.60
Brown, 28 in., nom.	"	0.40	0.42	" No. 2		5.50	6.20
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS		2.00	2.40	" No. 3		5.10	5.40
BROCADES, White, 40 yds. 36 in., nom.	"	1.60	1.70	PEPPER—Black		6.60	"
Dyed, Assorted	"	2.30	2.60	White		5.90	"
DAMASKS, Assorted, 40 yds. 26 in., nom. per piece	"	3.80	4.20	RATTANS—Common		2.20	2.60
CHINTZ, Assorted, 28 yds. 28 in.	"	1.30	1.45	Good to fine		3.00	4.00
Blue	"	1.18	1.23	Best		4.50	5.00
Brown	"	1.15	1.25	SAPAN WOOD—			
Scarlet	"	1.30	1.50	3 pieces to the picul		2.20	2.50
TURKEY REDS, 24 yds. 32 in. 2½ to 3-lbs.	"	1.10	1.70	6 & 7 .., & inf.		1.50	1.60
VELVETS, Black, 22 in.	per yard	0.13	0.16½	SANDALWOOD, South Sea		8.00	12.00
VELVETEENS, Black, 18 in.	"	0.11	0.13	Timor		3.20	3.40
26 in.	"	0.15	0.18	Malabar		17.00	18.50
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nom.	per piece	0.60	0.68	WINDOW GLASS—			
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 36 in.	"	1.00	1.20	Large		2.15	2.40
41 in.	"	1.20	1.50	Small		1.90	2.10
YARN, Cotton, Nos. 28 & 32	per bale	65 00	80.00	KEROSENE—Devoe's		1.62	1.65
SPANISH STRIPES, Assorted	per yard	0 48	0 55	COTTON—Shanghai		10.00	11.30
MEDIUM and HABIT CLOTHS	"	0.70	1.05	FLINT STONES		0.45	"

OPIUM.—Receipts of Opium since last report		MALWA,	1,435	Chests.	BENGAL,	24	Chests.
Stock on the 28th ultimo		"	2,206	"	"	2,161	"
Total...		"	3,641	"	Total...	"	2,185
Deliveries since the 28th ultimo		"	1,178	"	"	533	"
Present Stock		"	2,463	"	"	1,652	"
Against Stock same time last year		"	2,708½	"	"	1,055	"
Increase ..		"	245½	"	Increase 614		

EXPORTS.

SILK.—We quote the following from Mr. W. T. Phipps' circular:—Our Silk market gradually weakened last mail to a basis of Tls. 370 per picul for Blue Elephant Chop at which a good business was transacted; hardly any alteration in the tael price has to be noted this week, although the laying-down cost has been lessened by the fall in exchange to 5s.0½d. for documentary bills. Monetary troubles at home, however, and the falling off in deliveries of silk from the warehouses lately have not given much hope of any improvement yet for the article, and buyers here have in consequence been holding aloof with a prospect of lower prices ruling before the next month is out. Sufficient business has still been going on to decrease the stock, and with operations suspended up-country there appears but little chance of silk coming forward in any quantity until after the China New-Year.

Demand has almost entirely been centered upon Market Chop No. 4 & 4½ Tsatlees, the lower grades of this class of silk having met with unusually small attention, and both Kahings and coarse Taysaams generally have been comparatively neglected.

The fortnight's purchases include—

For the French Mail.

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Ex. 5/10 & 12½
Black Lion Chop, Nos. 3 and 3½ Tsatlees	Tls. 380 and 370	= 16/9 and 16/4	
Cock and Worm Chop, Nos. 4 and 4½	Tls. 370 and 360	= 16/4 and 15/11	
Blue and Yellow Elephant	Tls. 370 and 360	= 16/4 and 15/11	
Blue Peacock "Tun-ling"	Tls. 370	= 16/4	
Mountain Chop, No. 1	Tls. 370	= 16/4	
S.S.S. and S.S.S.S.	Tls. 350 and 340	= 15/6 and 15/0	

For this Mail.

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Ex. 5/10 & 12½
Cock and Worm Chop, Nos. 4 and 4½ Tsatlees	Tls. 370 and 360	= 16/9 and 15/7	
Blue and Yellow Elephant	Tls. 370 and 360	= 16/0 and 15/7	
Dancing Bear Nos. 2 and 3	Tls. 371½ and 361½	= 16/1 and 15/8	
Pagoda Chop No. 2	Tls. 371½	= 16/4	
Buffalo Chop, No. 2	Tls. 375	= 16/3	
"Giant's" Beautiful Woman, Nos. 2 and 3	Tls. 371½ and 361½	= 16/1 and 15/8	
Red Peacock	Tls. 370	= 16/0	
Mountain Chop, No. 1	Tls. 370	= 16/0	
Blue and Yellow Eagle	Tls. 365 and 355	= 15/10 and 15/5	
S.S.S.	Tls. 350	= 15/2	

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

DECEMBER 14, 1878.

ARRIVALS during the week.—December 8th, British steamer *Patroclus*, from Liverpool; German barque *H. Upmann*, from Hamburg; British barque *Walls Castle*, from Singapore; 9th, P. & O. steamer *Teheran*, with the English mails, &c.

DEPARTURES during the week.—December 6th, M.M. steamer *Anadyr*, with the French mails, &c.; 9th, American ship *Gold Hunter*, for Victoria, V.I.; 11th, British steamer *Glencarn*, for London via Suez Canal.

The P. & O. mail steamer *Geelong* takes about 900 balen of SILK and 100 tons of Tea.

EXCHANGE.—On London, Telegraphic Transfers, 4s. 9½d. Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 0½d. nominal. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 0½d. a 5s. 1d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 1d. On Paris, Bank, 6.35. Private 6.43. On India, Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 302 to 303; Calcutta, Bank, demand, Rs. 302 to 303. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27½ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27½ per cent. discount. Bullion, Gold Bars, Peking, Shanghai 11s. 196 per bar of 10 Tls. Shanghai weight. Bar Silver, Shanghai Tls. 111.20 per 100 taels Canton weight. Mexican dollars, Shanghai Tls. 72.85 per 100. Copper Cash, 1,460 per tael.

S H A R E S.

SHANGHAI, 14th December, 1878.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—After the issue of our last report, a lot was sold for 31st current at 67½ premium. On the 9th business was done at 64½, exchange 72½ for cash, and the market fell to 61½ next day. Sales have since been made at 61½ for cash, at which the market closes quiet.

China Coast Steam Navigation Co.—The market was quiet all the week, until yesterday, when a lot was sold at £102 for cash.

Shanghai Dock Co.—Shares are wanted.

Shanghai Gas Co.—One or two lots have changed hands at £150. More can be procured at the same rate.

Compagnie du Gaz.—There are sellers at £160.

North-China Insurance Co.—Shares have been sold at £1,300.

Chinese Insurance Co.—No business is reported. We quote the rate \$330, nominal.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—There are sellers at \$900.

China Fire Insurance Co.—Shares are offered at \$210. Buyers offer \$200.

Chinese Imperial Government Loan of 1877.—Bonds have been sold at £109, and are in demand at the same rate.

Theatre Debentures.—A few have been placed at £10, at which rate there are buyers.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	Closing.
<i>Bank.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	40,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,200,000	\$19,243.05	30 June 78	• 51	20 Aug. 78	61½ prem.
<i>Steamer Companies.</i>									
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation)	22,500	£100	£15	.....	.....	30 Dec. 77	Return of 7½ on capital.	21 Sep. 78	17.20
China Coast Steam Navigation Co.	5,000	£100	£100	£66,273.42	£11,979.42	31 Dec. 77	+ 7 ½	15 Mar. 78	102
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	900	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	4 ½	21 Sep. 78	125
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£10,109.90	.....	30 June 78	• 2 ½	6 July 78	245
Pootung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	• 5 ½	5 July 78	97
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	£100	£100	£8,640.30	.....	31 Dec. 77	• 5 ½	15 July 78	150
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	£4,615.76	£1,033.37	31 Dec. 77	• 5½ ½	18 July 78	160
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	600	1,666.67	\$500	\$225,000.00	\$92,935.52	30 Apl. 78	12 ½	31 July 78	1,550
North-China Ins. Co., 1875/77	1,000	£2,000	£600	.....	£542,051.14	30 June 78	£140	2 July 78	30
Do. 1878	500	\$2,500	\$500	\$262,132.10	\$21,091.40	31 Dec. 77	+ \$113.37	30 Sep. 78	1,300
Union In. Society of Canton	1,200	£350	£350	£334,144.48	£74,285.99	15 Apr. 78	• 6 ½	11 July 78	1,706
Yangtze Insurance Association	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$74,133.82	.....	30 Dec. 76	• 6 ½	1 Jan. 78	725
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited									330 nominal.
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	2,000	\$1,000	\$200	\$632,302.00	\$260,157.58	30 Dec. 77	+ \$56.75 p.sh.	20 Feb. 78	900
China Fire In. Co., Limited	4,000	\$500	\$100	\$346,896.00	\$145,719.72	30 Dec. 77	+ 12 ½	31 Dec. 77	210
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,150	£100	£100	£5,000.00	£557.91	30 Dec. 77	• 5 ½	15 Aug. 78	151½*

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentures.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1872	£ 28,700.00	£ 100.00	8 %	30th April & 31st Oct.	£104½ } nominal.
Do. 1873	£ 21,000.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	
Do. 1875	£ 42,800.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	
Do. 1878	£ 24,000.00	£ 100.00	"	28th Feb. & 31st Aug.	
Lyceum Theatre Ordinary Debentures.	£ 17,000.00	£ 25.00	"	30th June.	£110
Do. Preference do.	£ 5,362.50	£ 37.50	5 %	31st Dec.	£ 10
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874	£ 627,615	£ 100	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£101
Do. do. 1877	£1,604,276	£ 100	8 %	28th Feb. & 31st Aug.	£109

* For half-year. + For year.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

THE WEATHER during the week has been cold and wet, and the thermometer has ranged from 40 to 66.

COPIES
OF THE
TREATIES
BETWEEN
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TOGETHER WITH
REGULATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF FOREIGN TRADE,
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THE Publication of this Work has been undertaken in order to meet a requirement long expressed and widely recognised. The present collection brings together and renders available for general purposes of reference all the TREATIES that have been concluded between CHINA and FOREIGN POWERS, together with the greater portion of the various REGULATIONS which have been successively agreed upon during the last sixteen years; and the TREATY of Peace, &c. between JAPAN and COREA (CHOSSEN.) Several instruments, though not now in force, find place in the work, as the French Treaty of 1844, and the U. S. Treaty of same year; also, the Emigration Convention of 1866, and the Articles of Revision negotiated 1868-1869, by Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, K.C.B.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of a copy of a work entitled "Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers," edited by Mr. W. F. Mayers, Chinese Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation at Peking, and published at the North-China Herald office, Shanghai. Among various treaties given, it contains several which have been abrogated and others which have never been ratified but which are historically interesting. The volume is well printed and bound and reflects great credit on the publisher.—*Daily Press*.

We have received from the North-China Herald office of a copy of the "Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers" just published by our contemporary. The book is convenient in size, neatly and strongly bound, and consists of no less than 230 pages. It contains all the Treaties that have been concluded between China and Foreign Powers, together with the greater portion of the various Regulations which have been successively agreed upon during the last sixteen years, and the recently concluded Treaty between Japan and Corea. Several instruments, though not now in force, find place in the work, as the French Treaty of 1844 and the United States Treaty of the same year; also, the Emigration Convention of 1866, and the Articles of Revision negotiated in 1869 by Sir Rutherford Alcock. This is, we believe, the only complete work of this kind that has been published, and it reflects considerable credit upon the enterprising office in question.—*China Mail*.

Many of our readers will have felt, at one time or another, the inconvenience of not having at hand for reference a copy of such and such a foreign Treaty with China. Several of these had never been printed. Others had been separately printed after negotiation, for semi-private use; others have seen the light in the columns of newspapers, and others again have been recorded in European publications such as the *British and Foreign State Papers*, compiled in London by Mr. Edward Hertslet, or in the *Archives Diplomatiques*, the corresponding Parisian work; but for all general purposes they have remained virtually inaccessible. Under the editorship of Mr. W. F. Mayers, all the several treaties and agreements which have been from time to time concluded to China with other nations, have now been collected and printed at the North-China Herald office in a convenient volume of some 250 pages. The large number of copies which have been subscribed for beforehand proves that the work will be especially welcome at Consulates, Legations, and Customs Offices, and we have no doubt it will be found a necessary book of reference by many private readers. There are some documents in it which will bye-and-bye call for especial notice. In the meantime we merely acknowledge the book, the subscription copies of which will, we understand, be distributed next week, as quickly as they can be prepared.—*N.-C. Herald*.

We acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the much needed volume, "Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers, &c.," which, under the editorship of Mr. W. F. Mayers, Chinese Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation at Peking, has been published at the North-China Herald office. Since 1860, the editor tells us, no attempt has been made to bring together the greater portion of the various Treaties and Regulations which have been successively agreed upon since that period. The object of the present volume is to supply in a form adapted for easy reference, all treaties and regulations actually in force, from the Nanking Treaty between England and China signed in 1842; and a complete compendium of all the provisions under which the international relations of the Chinese Government are conducted are now within reach. The whole are bound in a well-printed, compact volume, with an elaborate index of subjects, which will render it most useful. All foreigners in the far-east must have it, if they would know the precise terms of their residence and trading in China.—*Shanghai Courier & Evening Gazette*.

The *Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers*. Shanghai: The North-China Herald Office; London: Trübner and Co.—This work, to which we have already directed attention, will supply a want much felt at the present time. It collects together all the treaties between China and Foreign Powers, and thus makes it easy to refer to our actual position upon any given point, which it is impossible to ascertain without consulting other treaties as in some cases we are entitled to more than is expressed in our own treaty, by virtue of the most favoured nation clause. The present collection gives, in addition to the different treaties, the various regulations agreed upon from time to time; and has also Sir Rutherford Alcock's Convention of 1869, and the Chefoo Agreement, now under consideration of the Government.—*London and China Express*.

"NORTH-CHINA HERALD" OFFICE,
SHANGHAI, June 1878.